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CONTENTS

IS BOBO OLSON AFRAID OF GAVILAN?	Daniel M. Daniel	4
FLORIDA BOOM HAD QUICK END	The Ring Editor	6
DARK CONTINENT COMES TO LIGHT	Jersey Jones	8
GAZING INTO THE CRYSTAL	Al Buck	10
PAYMENT DEFERRED	Johnny Salak	12
EZZARD CHARLES, FIGHTER OF THE MONTH	Nat Fleischer	14
WHEN IS A BOY A MAN?	Ted Carroll	16
NAT FLEISCHER SAYS (Editorial Comment)		18
OUTSIDE U.W.A. (Photoso)		21
BOXING GOODWILL AMBASSADOR	Nat Fleischer	22
TV AND BOXING	Johnny Salak	24
WITH OUR SERVICEMEN		26
RING PROSPECTS MAKE GOOD	Lewis Eskin	27
ROPE FIGHTERS	Lester Bromberg	28
NEW FACES	Fred Eisenstadt	31
VIEWS OF THE MONTH (Photos)		32
HE SOLD 'EM DOWN THE RIVER	Bill Miller	34
NEWS OF THE MAT WORLD	Nat Loubert	36
THE MICHIGAN WILDCAT	Nat Fleischer	44
THE OLD TIMER'S ALBUM (Photos)		50

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In Rings Around the World

Boxing in the Caribbean by Claude Ramsey	30
Nebraska Sparks by Floyd Hayes	40
Buffalo, N. Y. News by Hugh Shannon	41
New York Broadcast by Jersey Jones	42
In Sunny California by Bill Miller	46
Canadian Maritime News; German Boxing Diary; In Syracuse Rings	51
News From Great Britain by John S. Sharpe	52
News From LaLaguna, Mexico	53
European Gossip by Charley Parrish	54
From Boise, Idaho	55
Western Massachusetts Boxing News; Central Ohio; Minnesota News; Kansas City and Vicinity	56
Albuquerque, N. M.; Montana and Northwest; Idaho; Wisconsin; Louisville, Ky.	57
Sunny Australia; Calgary, Can.; Little Rhody	58
Around Chicago; South Dakota Sparks	59
South Texas; New Orleans and the South; Toledo	60
Michigan; Connecticut	61
Under Southern Skies by Tom Ephrem	62
New Jersey; Covering New England; From Virginia	63
From Rio de Janeiro; News from Hawaii; In Tokyo; Maryland; Spokane News	64

In Our Next Issue

Whom will Rocky Marciano meet in his next two defenses of the heavyweight championship? Whoever these opponents may be, Nino Valdes, of Cuba, will not be one of them. Does Rocky fear Nino? Why does Al Weill refuse to consider the Cuban? The inside story is in the next issue.

Nat Fleischer will cover the return fight between light heavyweight champion Archie Moore and Joey Maxim, at Miami. His trenchant editorial column also will be of special interest.

Al Buck will tell how boxing promotion has been affected and changed by television sponsorships, and the building up of the TV revenue as a permanent factor.

In addition, there will be the final installment of the fine series on Ad Wolgast.

Most champions are famous for their victories. But there have been some whose records have been highlighted by their defeats. Nat Loubet will tell you about them.

What with the customary fine pictorial coverage, the April issue will be of the usual high class and interest maintained in this publication.

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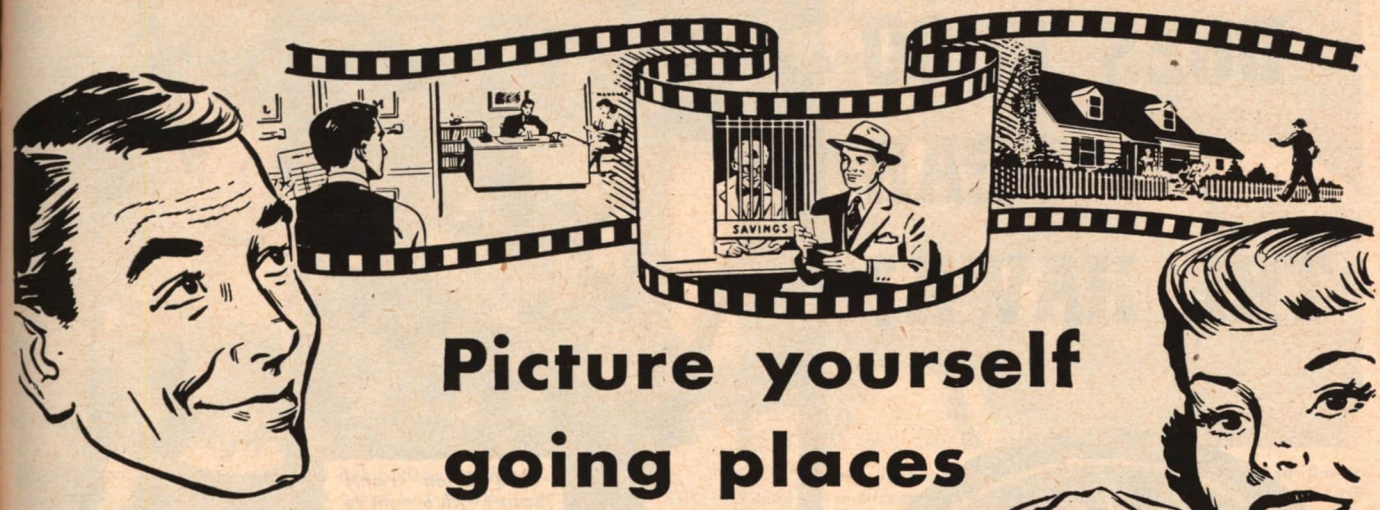

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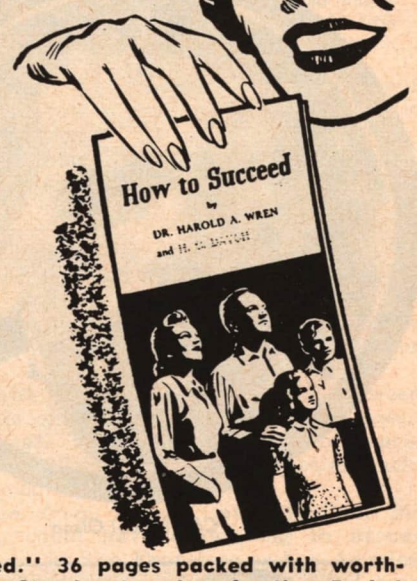

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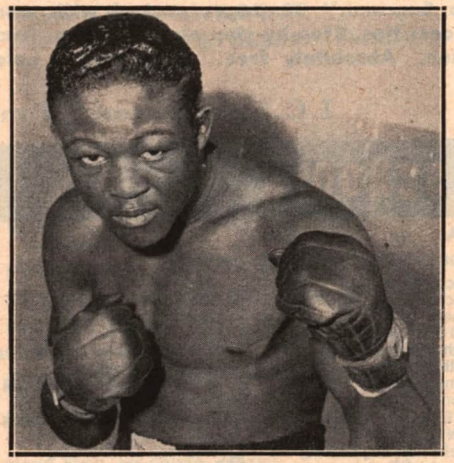
DOES BOBO FEAR THE HAWK?

Bobo Olson (right) scores with a right to the head of Jimmy Beau while winning a ten round bout in New York in 1952.

Carl (Bobo) Olson



Kid Gavilan

By DANIEL M. DANIEL

MORE than ever the light heavyweight is the welterweight class, the interim division of professional boxing. So many fighters drop into the 145 pound company for a brief stay, even to the extent of winning its championship, and then move right up to the middleweight coterie.

The factor behind this, of course, is good old Mother Nature. She has a way of putting weight on healthy young men.

The latest example of the old gal's largesse is found in Kid Gavilan, the Hawk from Havana, welter champion of the world. He has been experiencing trouble making the weight for that division, and like so many 147 pounders before him, is casting longing, even covetous eyes, on the middleweight class.

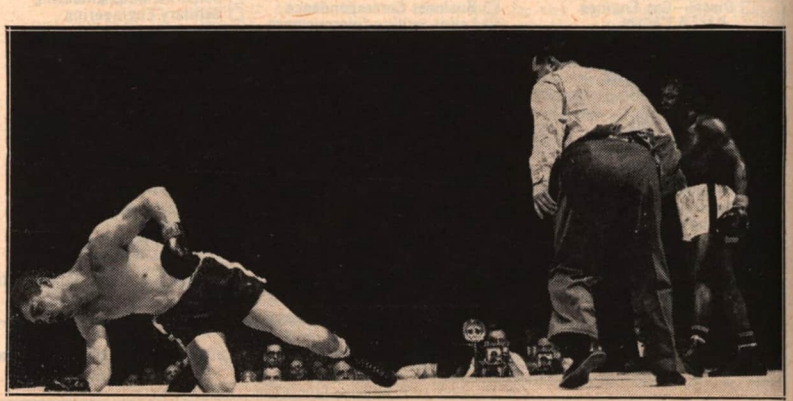
Just what does this mean for Carl Bobo Olson, who won the middleweight championship of the world this past Summer with his spectacular victory over Randy Turpin?

How safely situated is Bobo on the top rung of the 160 pound division?

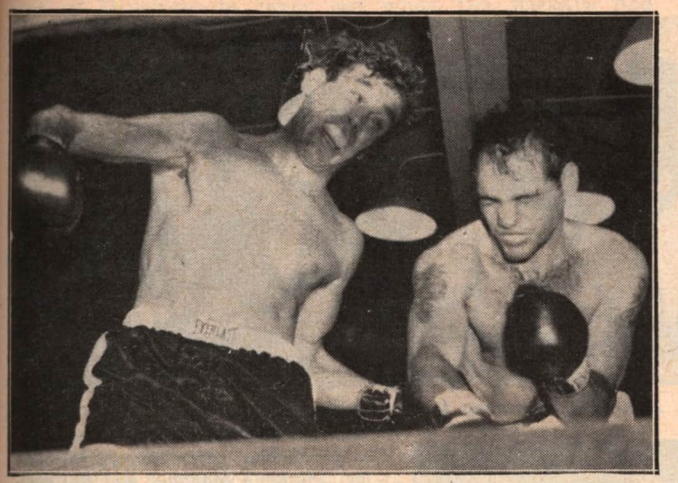
There are critics who believe that Olson is not too eager to tackle Gavilan, just yet, though they are matched.

There are ring experts who will tell you that Carl is afraid of the Hawk. They mean to imply no cowardice. Far from it. Merely a sense of respect by Bobo for the Kid's versatility, for his courage, for his boxing ability, for his wearing down an opponent with his telling sequences of punches.

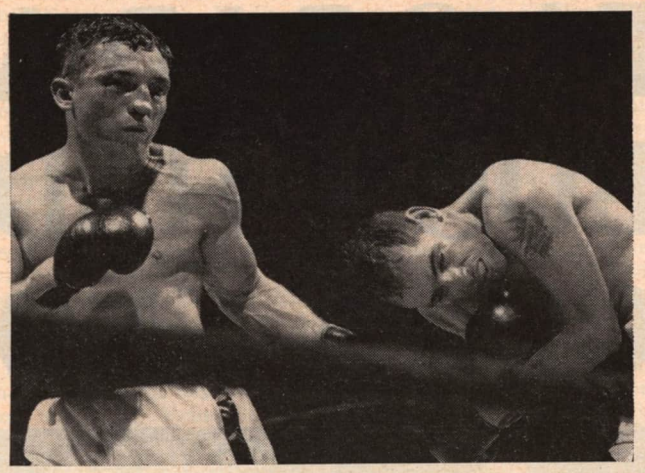
Olson-ites will cry down the implication that their man really fears Gavilan. They point to the manifest superlatives which Bobo displayed in his easy 15 round triumph over Paddy Young for the American middleweight crown.



Kid Gavilan (right), who has a flair for the spectacular, looked like he might lose a decision to Walter Cartier in December 1951. But he unleashed a savage attack in the tenth and last round that dropped Cartier after which Referee Ruby Goldstein halted the bout.



Walter Cartier (left) next fought Bobo Olson at the Eastern Parkway Arena, Brooklyn, and again Cartier was halted, Olson doing a workmanlike job on him in five rounds.



Olson (right), looked very sharp as he easily outpointed Paddy Young in a fifteen rounder for the American middleweight title last Summer. Soon after he beat Randy Turpin for the world crown.

They point to Bobo's clean cut success over Turpin who, though not the Randy of that amazing victory over Ray Robinson in London, still packed a punch and the know-how of a tested champion and a true trouper.

A FIGHT between Olson and Gavilan could be one of the big features of 1954. Recently, Jim Norris, IBC head, closed the match for April 2 at Chicago Stadium. It will be TV'ed nationally though blacked out in the Chicago area.

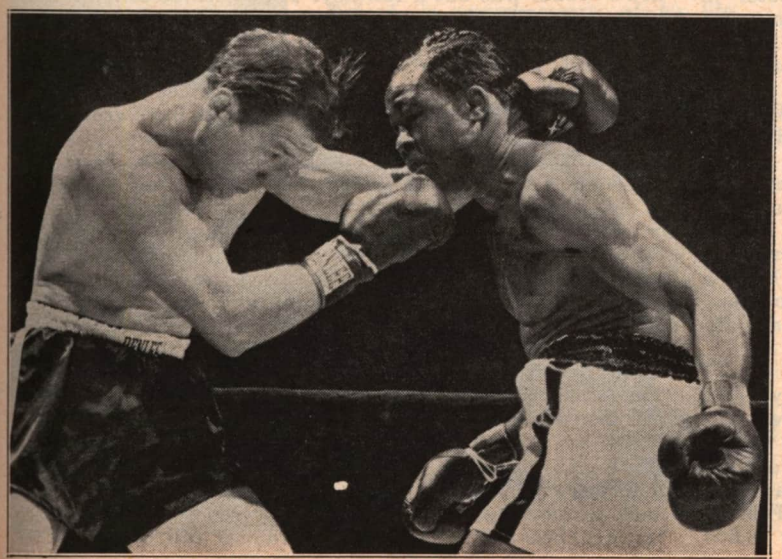
Such a contest would pit against each other a couple of boxers of somewhat identical methods. Neither is classed as a knockout artist. Neither has that one, smashing punch with which to end a fight suddenly.

Both Carl and the Hawk are wear- down boxers, who keep punching and hurting, punching and hurting, until their opponents get sick of the job confronting them.

Olson has a fine left hand. He is a somewhat better boxer than he appears to be. Bobo seems to be doing too much cuffing. But if one punch is cuffed, if one grazes the jaw, two find their mark. A sharp count on the middleweight king will reveal a remarkable average of hits.

Gavilan in top shape is a machine. He never stops whether he can still "step" for an entire round is the big question. That much advertised bolo punch of his is supported by sound techniques. He is a two-fisted boxer, a good stepper around the ring, with a sort of stealthy quality which makes him look like the hunter in the jungle stalking his prey. The hawk has a fine bag of tricks and can change his style to suit the situation.

Kid Gavilan (right) and Billy Graham fought four times, the first three being very close affairs. Gavilan held the world welterweight title in the last bout, staged in Havana, and clearly outpointed Graham.



There is one vital factor which would operate in favor of Gavilan, perhaps even to the point of winning the title for him in a fight with Olson.

Bobo already is having some difficulty making 160 pounds. Gavilan for some time has been experiencing trouble making 147.

IN a middleweight championship fight, Bobo would be harrassed by the weight factor, the Hawk would be helped tremendously.

With no weight worries, with a suitably long and serious training period, Gavilan would be one tough hombre for Bobo.

This matter of weight helps to spark a match between Olson and Gavilan into one of the most attractive possibilities of the boxing year. It is not an affair to be depreciated, as was the Olson-Turpin fight, by doubting lacklustre promotion methods.

Olson, the American from Hawaii, and Gavilan, the champion from Cuba, could have drawn big in arenas in New York, in Chicago, in San Francisco or Los Angeles.

It is an international attraction which could have been built into a fight big enough for Yankee Stadium.

There are, in this Olson-Gavilan situation, many of the factors which worked up the Robinson-Turpin fight at the Polo Grounds on September 12, 1951, when $767,000 was paid into the box office by more than 61,000 spectators.

Gavilan's showing in his decisive victory over Johnny Bratton on November 3, 1953, in Chicago, was a strong argument for his moving into the middleweight division.

The Hawk did everything but stop Bratton, who was walloped from pillar to post. But Gavilan fought in flurries. If he had not had that trouble making weight, he would have been strong enough to stop his man as early as the eighth round.

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The tendency of welters to move into the 160 pound class is explained by brief analysis.

Many welterweights are merely middleweight boxers in process of growth.

The lightweights seem to hold their weight down fairly well. The little guys, like the bantams, are built small, the jockey class of the ring.

But the welters generally are men whom Nature has picked for greater weight from childhood.

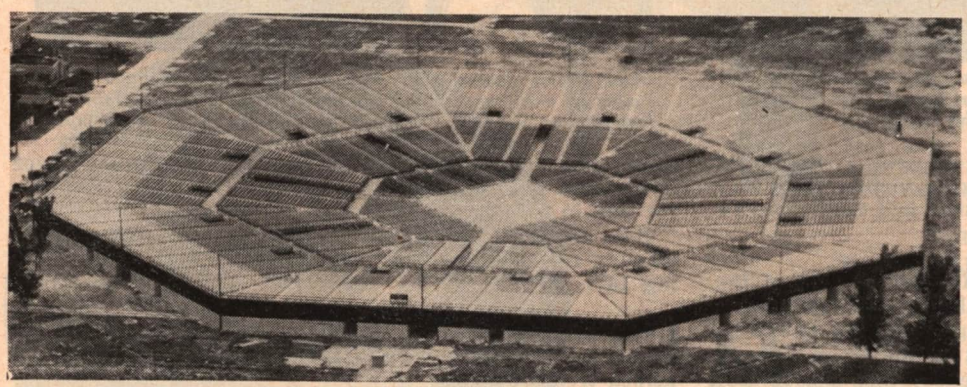
Light heavyweights like to jump into the heavyweight division, but their reasons are largely financial. There never has been any consistently big money in the light heavy class, which is a synthetic division, anyway.

In 1903, Lou Houseman, of Chicago, who was both boxing writer for a local newspaper and ring promoter, created the light heavy class for the purpose of taking care of Jack Root, his protege.

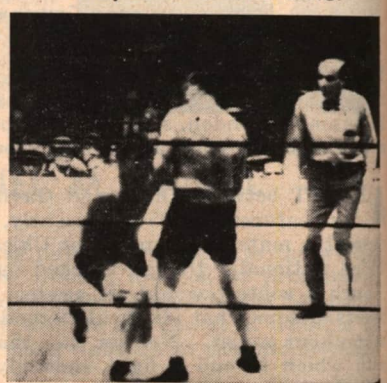
(*Continued on page* 49)

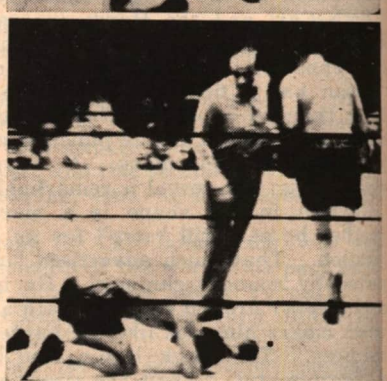
FLORIDA BOOM HAD QUICK END

Jack Sharkey signing for the Young Stribling fight. On his right are Frank Bruen, Garden matchmaker and Major Peeples; behind him Johnny Buckley, Sharkey's Manager and Nat Fleischer, Editor of THE RING.



A panoramic view of Miami Stadium, opened in 1930 for the Sharkey-Scott fight, was to be the center of big boxing attractions during the winter. It never paid off.





Jack Sharkey drops Faintin' Phil Scott to one knee in the third round (top) and as the Englishman collapses to the canvas the referee counts him out. The bout drew over $200,000 but like most Florida ventures, lost money.

By THE RING *Editor*

THE winter playground of the United States.

That's what they call Florida where the folks from up North go to escape the snow and windy blasts that are expected during the months of December, January and February.

The world championship fight between Archie Moore and Joey Maxim for the light heavyweight crown, which was held in Miami during the past month, recalls the attempts and failure to make Florida the center of winter boxing. With TV sponsorship to back up the gate receipts, the chances are that the Orange State will finally reach the coveted goal.

Tex Rickard was the first to recognize the value of Florida as a haven for the Northerners during the cold spell and it was he who conceived the idea of making it the Deauville of America by adding to horse racing other sports that would entice the visitors. With the foresight that made him a millionaire when he carried on as a fight promoter in New York, Tex planned a dog track, a boxing arena, a jai-alai court and a pier for fishing but the Grim Reaper struck before his gigantic plans could be carried out.

His death, however, did not halt the biggest fight promotion program ever organized in the Seminole State. With his passing, Bill Carey, who took Rickard's place at head of the Garden, signed Young Stribling, popular Georgia heavyweight, to face Jack Sharkey, then the outstanding contender for the crown vacated by Gene Tunney, and on February 27, 1929, Sharkey defeated Stribling in ten rounds before a gathering of 40,000 persons who paid a gross of $400,050. That was the first of what was expected to become an annual invasion of Florida with at least one major bout and several of lesser importance but having as the main attraction highly rated fighters.

THOUGH the Garden, despite the big gate, barely came out even on that show, the advertising it received was well worth the venture and under the guidance of Bill Carey, exactly one year later, the Phil Scott-Jack Sharkey contest was staged at Miami Stadium. This time, though the appearance of the Britisher gave the bout an international flavor and the contest was even more highly publicized, only 18,600 persons attended and the receipts of $201,464 didn't pay the expenses.

With that flop, the Garden directors decided that Rickard's dream was but a fantasy. They became convinced that visitors to Florida were more interested in horse and dog races, yachting and fishing than they were in boxing matches. They were willing to spend big dough at the tracks but wouldn't fall for the big prices for boxing.

Had Rickard been alive, success would have crowned his efforts. He had a knack for promotion that was lacking in the makeup of those who succeeded him. Mike Jacobs' aid was enlisted but his efforts were of little avail in the sale of ducats to the general public. Since he was more interested in what premiums he could obtain through speculation and by holding out on the public by retaining the best tickets for his choice patrons with the help, of course, of those in control of the Garden promotion, the opportunity to make of Florida a real winter playground with one or more championship fights to lure the gullible ones, had been killed. That, however, was only one of the causes of the failure. The other was the tremendous expenses rolled up by the ballyhoo department.

THE passing of Mike Jacobs and the financial flop of last winter's attempt to revive boxing on a big scale, brings back to memory the days of the Garden's first big Florida venture, because it was he who induced Bill Carey and the

Board of Directors to carry out what Tex Rickard had started. The uncertainty that permeated the air was overcome by the pressure brought to bear on those who had urged the abandonment of Rickard's plans with the explanation that with Tex gone, there wasn't a chance to put the Sharkey-Stribling fight across. But Jacobs convinced Carey and he in turn convinced Mr. Hoyt, Chairman of the Board, that with proper publicity, based on the Garden's future now that its chief of staff had died, the fight would be a success.

THE show was by far the best for sustained ballyhoo ever promoted. Had the affair been held in New York, it would have been lucky to have drawn a gate of $100,000 but for Florida it was a natural. Less suitable material for ballyhoo would have been hard to find.

Sharkey had soured the public and the press by his many disappointing contests and Stribling had the reputation of being a great fighter in the sticks but a bust when it came to facing top opposition. That made each fighter good copy.

Then added to that combination was the death of Rickard and the desire of the fight fans to see whether those who were to take over the gigantic Garden structure could carry on without him. The future of the Madison Square Garden Corporation was at stake. Harping on that and its many angles was meat for the publicity staff.

Then there was the presence of Jack Dempsey in his first role as a fight promoter. Bill Carey, following a meeting with the directors of the Garden, decided to pay Jack $10,000 and a share of the profits to act as front man in the promotion and he made glorious copy for the ballyhoo.

The Garden leased the George Washington Hotel to house the New York scribes and with them on the job, the success of the fight was assured. Steve Hannigan, America's ace public relations counsel, headed the radio section of the publicity and I handled the newspapermen.

WELL, the fight was staged, the publicity was terrific, greater than in any previous ring contest, the public support was excellent and the Garden directors were elated. The scene was one that would have delighted Rickard who conceived the idea of invading the Southland with this major heavyweight attraction, the first promoted on such a scale since the famous Corbett-Mitchell championship back in 1893. It was an eye-opener for the Madison Square Garden directors who, immediately following the contest, announced that the success of this show assured Florida of at least one such promotion each winter. The directors had high hopes that they could carry on along the lines visioned by the great master promoter, Tex Rickard, now that they had put across the initial promotion.

There followed another heavyweight elimination bout, this time a year later to the day, with Jack Sharkey fighting Phil Scott in the Madison Square Garden Stadium of Miami, and as in the first contest, scribes from all parts of the world flocked to the scene but the paying public did not support the venture as it did in the Miami Beach affair. Only 18,600 persons paid to see Sharkey win from Scott on a disqualification following his claim of foul and the receipts amounted only to $201,464, about half of the previous gate. With the heavy expenses incurred by the publicity department of which I was the head and Sid Mercer of the *New York Journal* was my assistant, and the burden of paying seven weeks hotel expenses, travelling expenses for an army of scribes, 458 of them, and a liquor bill of $32,000 for the bootleg stuff consumed by the scribes, the Garden lost money and dropped its plans for annual fistic extravaganzas in the Southland.

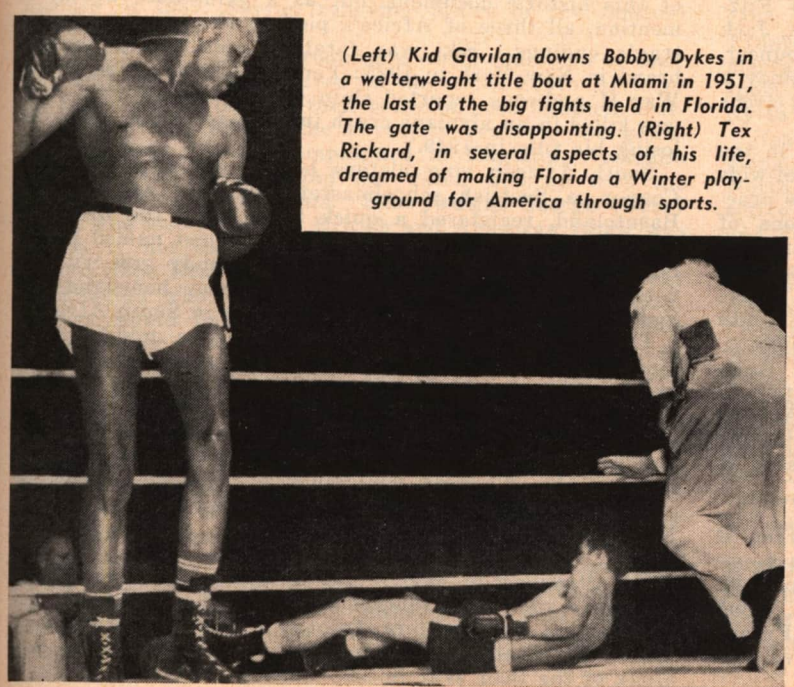
It was not until four years later, March 1, 1934, that another attempt was made to promote in Florida and on that occasion, Primo Carnera successfully defended his heavyweight title against Tommy Loughran in the Garden's Stadium at Miami with only 8,624 persons in attendance and $44,598.70 as the gross gate.

That contest convinced the Garden directors that it would be best to abandon the plans conceived by Rickard and Florida was left to handle its fight promotions as in the years before Old Tedge dream was launched. It was the end of a dream.

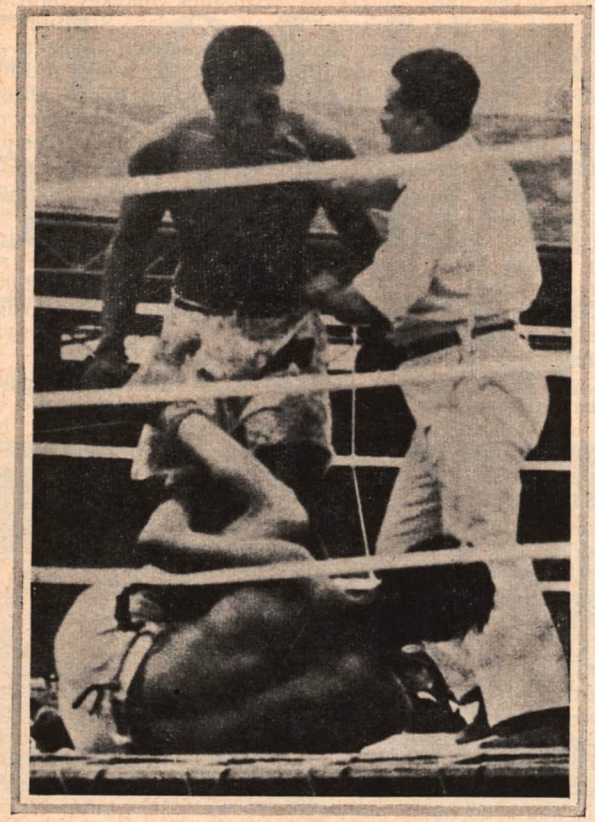
IT was not until 1951 that another attempt to arouse the Florida visitors was made, this time under the guidance of Jim Norris who by now had taken over the Garden boxing promotion from Mike Jacobs. Norris' International Boxing Club arranged to have Joe Louis, who was making a comeback, fight Omelio Agramonte of Havana at the Stadium in Miami and even Louis couldn't draw 'em at the gate. Norris had figured that many Cubans would come up from Havana to see their heavyweight king in action against the Brown Bomber but only 13,440 persons were sufficiently interested and the fight drew a gate of only $55,532.29.

Then on February 4, 1952, the popular Kid Gavilan defended his world welterweight title against a popular Southerner, Bobby Dykes. That bout drew $20,000 more than the Louis-Agramonte mill but still not enough to convince Jim Norris that Florida could resume its big time promotion

The gold that was in Florida in the days of the Big Boom, are gone. People still flock to the balmy south during the winter months, but horse and dog racing relieve them of their dough. Jim Norris hopes to have the dream of Tex Rickard and Mike Jacobs eventually come true, but those who follow the sport closely, have their doubts. The Maxim-Moore bout was one more proof that huge gates in Florida cannot be obtained.



(Left) Kid Gavilan downs Bobby Dykes in a welterweight title bout at Miami in 1951, the last of the big fights held in Florida. The gate was disappointing. (Right) Tex Rickard, in several aspects of his life, dreamed of making Florida a Winter playground for America through sports.



Battling Siki scoring sensational knockout of Georges Carpentier in Paris in 1922, winning light-heavyweight title and becoming Africa's first world champion.

Dark Continent Comes To Light

Widespread popularity of boxing and development of young talent have made Africa a prominent factor in ring world.

By JERSEY JONES

BOXING talent is not limited to any one race or any one clime. It is where you find it, and that can be anywhere in this restless world—in the crowded slums of New York City, along the bustling waterfront of Sydney, on the rolling pampas of the Argentine, in the rice paddies of the Philippines.

No particular field of human endeavor specializes in producing outstanding ringmen. Champions and top contenders have come out of office buildings, farms, lumber camps, factories, railroad locomotives, and ships that sail the seven seas. Before turning to the ring, Bob Fitzsimmons was a blacksmith, Jim Corbett a bank clerk, Jack Johnson a stevedore, Stanley Ketchell a honky-tonk bouncer, Jack Dempsey a knight of the open road, Gene Tunney a stenographer, Jack Sharkey a sailor, Primo Carnera a circus strong man, Joe Louis a factory hand.

Boxing rates, and deservedly, as the No. 1 entry in the international athletic curriculum. It has become world-wide in its activity. Only a half-century or so ago, it was practically a monopoly of the English-speaking nations of the earth—the United States and the scattered links in the far-flung chain of the British Empire. It has since swept its way to popularity in all nooks and corners of the map. Every continent, with the lone exception of South America, has accounted for at least one world champion. Title-holders have come out of France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Panama, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Mexico, the Philippines, Japan—and even the jungles, deserts and plains of Africa!

It is to the remarkable expansion of leather-tossing activity on the once Dark Continent that this essay is dedicated.

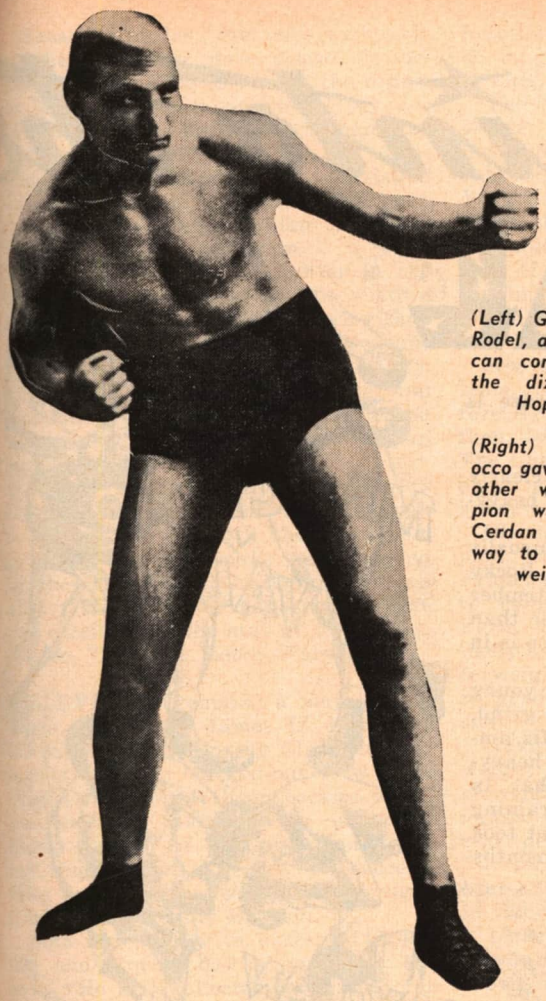
BOXING in South Africa dates back to 1882, when it was introduced by early British settlers, but its popularity in the north, in the Mediterranean lands of Tunisia, Algeria and the Moroccos, and in the west, along the Atlantic seaboard in Nigeria, the Gold Coast and French West Africa, is of comparatively recent vintage, developed within the last thirty-five years.

Despite its long "seniority" in ring service, South Africa didn't produce world champion until Vic Toweel annexed the bantamweight title in 1950, but one West African and two North Africans had already come and gone as rulers of fistic roosts. Battling Siki, the Singular Senegalese, was light-heavyweight champion for six months in 1922-23; Young Perez of Tunis held the flyweight laurels for a year during the early '30s, and Marcel Cerdan of French Morocco bossed the middleweights for nine months in 1948–49. (Not that it has any direct bearing on the thesis of this historic document, but as a grim note worthy of mention, all three of Africa's pioneer champions met with tragic endings. Siki was fatally stabbed in a barroom brawl in New York in 1925; Perez vanished during World War II and was reported slain by the Nazis, and Cerdan was killed in an airplane crash in the Azores not long after losing his title in 1949.)

South African ring history began in 1882 when J. R. Couper, a Scottish schoolmaster, who had emigrated to Basutoland, registered a quick triumph in the first bout recorded there. He disposed of an opponent named Bloomfield in one round. Couper, a right handy guy with his fists, became a popular figure in his new homeland, and had much to do with establishing boxing in South Africa.

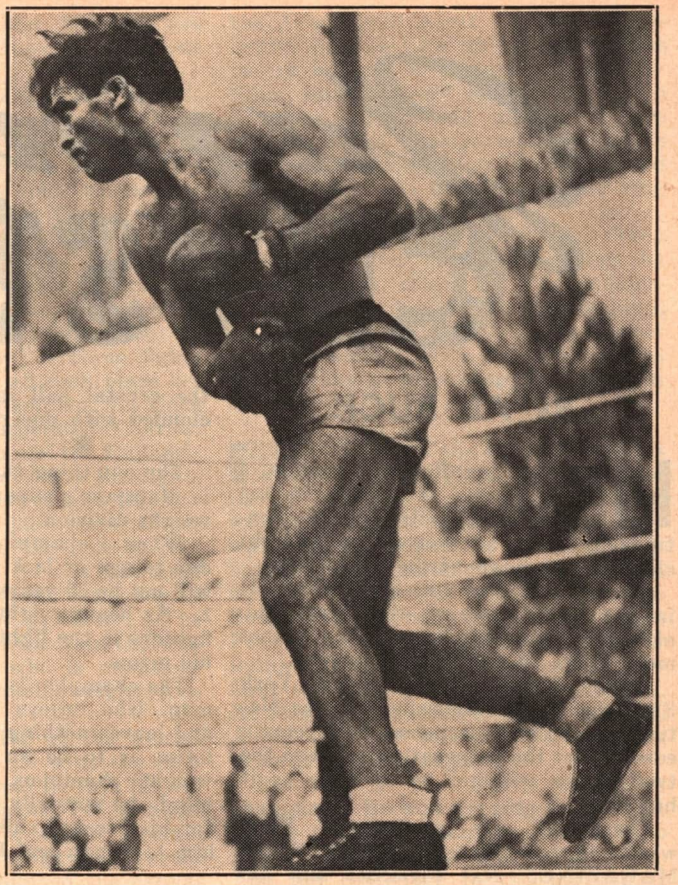
The first good local development was a middleweight, Jim Holloway, who thrived during the '90s. Holloway scaled around 154 pounds, but he wasn't one to quibble about weight. When opponents his own size weren't available, he didn't mind accommodating heavyweights. Having punched himself out of competition in South Africa, Holloway went to England, and made a favorable impression on British authorities by whipping Jewey Cook at the National Sporting Club in London.

THE discovery of gold in the Transvaal in 1894 started a lively rush of adventurous souls to South Africa, and professional prizefighters from England, Australia and the United States found ripe pickin's there until the outbreak of the Boer War in '99. Among the more prominent



(Left) George (Boer) Rodel, a South African contribution to the dizzy "White Hope Era."

(Right) French Morocco gave Africa another world champion when Marcel Cerdan blasted his way to the middleweight title.



visiting fist-slingers were Joe Goddard, Bill Doherty, Denver Ed Martin and Kid McCoy.

Through the years boxing has continued to occupy a conspicuous spot in the Union's sports program, and international matches between local favorities and importations from all over the world have kept the action moving at a brisk pace. One unusual development there was a world championship bout between a pair of touring Americans, Freddie Miller and Petey Sarron, who tangled on Johannesburg in 1937, Sarron relieving Miller of the featherweight title.

Although they hadn't produced a world champion of their own until Vic Toweel arrived on the scene, South Africans have consistently boasted their share of good fighters. During the early years of the twentieth century, the globe-trotting Rudy Unholz campaigned in England, Australia and the United States and was rated well up with the world's leading lightweights. Heavyweight George (Boer) Rodel, who also fought in British and American rings, was a busy if not too successful operative during the dizzy "White Hope Era." A list of only some of the many other Afrikanders who've been prominent in international competition would include heavyweights Fred Storbeck, Ben Foord, Johnny Squires, Don McCorkindale and Johnny Ralph; middleweights Eddie Peirce, George Angelo and Duggie Miller; welterweights Eddie Maguire and Alf James, lightweight Laurie Stevens and featherweight Willie Smith.

AMONG the Union's main representatives at present are Vic Toweel fighting as a featherweight; Vic's younger brother, bantam Willie; flyweights Jake Tuli and Dynamite Kid; featherweight Alby Tissong, lightweights Tony Habib, Johnny wan Rensberg and Johnny Mahlangu; welterweights Eddie Thomas, Gerald Dreyer and Leslie McKenzie, and heavyweight Johnny Arthur. Main bases of operations are in Johannesburg and Durban, with occasional action in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Pretoria, Kroonstead and Pietermaritzburg.

Because of strict segregation laws, "mixed" bouts are not permitted in South Africa, and opportunities for native Negroes are limited. In recent years, however, the "non-Europeans," as they are called, have found outlets for their suppressed ambitions by going to England and Australia, where there is no such thing as a "color line." The result has been some highly interesting developments. Tuli, Dynamite, Tissong, Mahlangu and McKenzie are the better known of the many who've made good in "open" competition.

BOXING in the one-time Barbary States of the Mediterranean began to take hold shortly after World War I, and mainly through the efforts of two enterprising Americans, Jeff Dickson and Lew Burston, then promoting in France. Dickson and Burston staged a couple of experimental shows in Algiers, and it wasn't long before the sport not only became popular there but spread its popularity to Tunisia and the Moroccos.

Headed by Perez and Cerdan, who became world champions, quite a crowd of good fighters have come out of North Africa—and they're still coming. Not only are they active in their own rings in Casablanca, Oran, Algiers, Bone and Tunis, but they are doing much to enliven the general scene on the European continent. The No. 1 contender for the world bantam title is an Algerian, Robert Cohen. Among other leading Algerians are welterweight Bachir Cheraka, lightweights Lahouri Godih, Hoacine Khalfi and Mohamed Messaoudi, featherweights Mohamed Chickaoui, Yayia Maddi and Marc Cuneo, and bantamweight Emile Chemama. Popular Tunisians include middleweights Claude Milazzo, Tino Albanese, Hamounda Bouraroui and Laid ben Younes, and featherweight Gaetano Annaloro. The best of the French Moroccans are the Bohbot brothers, lightweight Hanania and flyweight Charles, while Spanish Morocco's main entry is featherweight Manolo Garcia.

ASIDE from its chief ports of Dakar in Senegal and Abidjan on the Ivory Coast, there is comparatively little boxing in the vast but only partially developed expanses of French West Africa. Battling Siki was a fistic product not of his homeland, but of France, whither he drifted as a

(*Continued on page* 39)

Gazing into the CRYSTAL

By AL BUCK

HARD-hitting Rocky Marciano, a fighter who is always in top physical condition, will continue to rule as world heavyweight champion throughout the year 1954.

More title fights will be blacked out in the locality where they are held, although there will be as many, if not more fights on television this year.

Relations between the New York State Athletic Commission and the National Boxing Association will remain cordial, but the cooperation between the two groups will not be as close as it has been.

These are only predictions. Elsewhere in this issue of "THE RING MAGAZINE," Nat Fleischer and his able staff of writers are reviewing the exciting battles that have taken place in the last 12 months; rating the boxers in all divisions on what they have done in rings all over the world, and picking the "Fighter of the Year." They are historians dealing with facts that will appear later in the "Ring Record Book." As each is an expert, these writers are all on solid ground.

I am operating in the realm of conjecture. What does the future hold? What is ahead for boxing and the men who seek fame and fortune in the ring? If you do not agree with my answers to the questions, or should the future prove me wrong, please remember that the crystal ball into which I gaze is clouded with uncertainty.

• • •

The one thing that stands out clearly is Marciano's superiority in the heavyweight division.

When a champion loses it is usually due to age or lack of condition. Rocky will not be 30 years old until September 1. As heavyweights mature later than fighters in the lighter divisions, he is in his prime.

The champion is a clean living young man, who enjoys the training grind, and leaves nothing to chance. His ambition is to be an outstanding heavyweight champion, and with that in mind, he actually went into training for his recent exhibition tour that took him to Japan and Korea. Two months after he knocked out Roland LaStarza, Marciano was back at Grossinger, N. Y., getting in trim for an exhibition bout with Dick Wagner at Seattle.

Marciano has the choice of several opponents and the plan is to have him defend the title twice, once in Miami this winter, and again in June. Nino Valdez, the Cuban champion, would be the ideal challenger in Miami, a location near enough to Havana to attract Valdez's followers. Danny Nardico, Tampa light-heavyweight, who has been mentioned as a possible opponent for the heavyweight king, is hardly to be taken seriously, even in Florida. He would be outclassed whereas Valdez would give the champion a good battle.

There is a possibility that Rocky may engage in an international contest with Don Cockell of England in June, provided the latter establishes himself as a threat to the crown. An ideal elimination would pair Cockell with LaStarza, and Jack Solomons, the British promoter, is known to be interested in making the match for London. The British papers say the match has been made for February in Harringay Arena.

Ezzard Charles, the only ex-heavyweight champion now active, is demanding a chance to regain the crown he lost three years ago to Jersey Joe Walcott, but his defeat at the hands of Valdez temporarily puts him out of the picture. Dan Bucceroni's persistent campaign may pay off with a title bout, although the Philadelphian has been meeting inferior opposition.

The only outstanding fighter in the division as a contender at this writing is the man who whipped Charles then stopped the European heavyweight king, Heinz Neuhaus of Germany. That man is Nino Valdez. He and Marciano would pack the Miami arena so popular is Nino with his Cuban countrymen.

Among the younger heavyweights Coley Wallace punches hard enough to have a chance with the champion. However, he must make up his mind whether he wants to be a fighter or an actor. In the latter capacity Wallace was excellent as the star of the motion picture, "The Joe Louis Story."

TELEVISION remains a major problem. Promoter James D. Norris of the International Boxing Club got good results when he blacked-out New York when Carl (Bobo) Olson became world middleweight champion by defeating Randy Turpin of England, and again in Chicago when Kid Gavilan successfully defended the world welterweight title against Johnny Bratton.

Both fights drew in excess of $100,000 and Norris had a profit at the gate. He also collected large fees for telecasting the bouts Coast-to-Coast beyond a 100 mile radius. As a result, the local blackout is sure to become an I.B.C. policy whenever a championship is at stake.

When Marciano fought LaStarza the battle was shown only on theatre-television. This too, will be expanded in the future, but it takes a fight of a heavyweight championship magnitude to make it profitable to all concerned. The I.B.C. policy of making motion pictures of all fights is firmly established and will continue.

All four weekly fight telecasts will continue. The International Boxing Guild, which controls most of the fighters, has restricted such telecasts to four. It remains to be seen if the restriction is legal, but something has to be done to revive the small clubs in order to increase the flow of talent. It is in the smaller clubs that the champions of tomorrow are schooled.

AS president of the National Boxing Association, George Barton arrived at an understanding with Robert K. Christenberry, chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission for a working agreement. By law the New York Commission can not join the NBA, hence the alliance was on an informal basis. With Barton's term at an end, there are indications that future relations will not be as close.

This was indicated when Christenberry refused to go along with NBA's attempts to establish a universal scoring system in the interest of television. Relations remain cordial, but they are no longer on a one-for-all, all-for-one footing.

The NBA is demanding that Archie Moore, world light-heavyweight champion, defend the title against Harold Johnson of Philadelphia. The New York Commission has made no move to force the champion to sign, but the probability is the fight will take place only if Moore again wins from Joey Maxim. Moore will again defend the crown against the former champion, this time in Miami in a few weeks.

Moore has won two of three fights from Johnson. They all took place before Archie became champion, but since then Johnson has outpointed Charles. The Charles victory made the Philadelphian a challenger for both the light-heavyweight and heavyweight titles.

Olson, the new middleweight champion, wants to defend the title in San Francisco, and the I.B.C. is prepared to co-promote the fight with Benny Ford, the west coast promoter. The likely opponent is Kid Gavilan, the welterweight champion, who is ambitious to graduate to the middleweight division.

Gavilan will not give up the welterweight throne unless he wins the middleweight crown. Should he fail, he will again struggle to make 147 pounds, and defend the title again against Carmen Basilio, the rugged Syracuse contender, who had him on the canvas in their first meeting.

Under N.B.A. and New York rules, Gavilan doesn't have to give up his crown unless he wins the title in the next higher division. Such ruling was made in the case of Randy Turpin in England and with Ray Robinson when he fought Joey Maxim.

If Gavilan defeats Olson, the plan is to have Basilio and Bratton fight for the vacant welterweight title, though Australia has a man who definitely should figure in a world elimination in George Barnes.

There are others deserving of consideration in both divisions, namely Joey Giardello, Willie Troy, Ernie Durando, middleweights; and Johnny Saxton, welterweight.

JIMMY CARTER, the lightweight champion, also wants to move up a class. He is eager to fight Gavilan for the welterweight honors. This is a good match, but one Norris can't make if he goes through with arrangements for an Olson-Gavilan battle. Under the circumstances I look for Eddie Chavez, who like Olson is managed by Sid Flaherty, to get a fight with the lightweight champion. He is one of several who have defeated Carter in non-title bouts and has made great strides during the past year.

Chavez recently defeated Arthur King, the Canadian champion. Other top lightweights are Wallace (Bud) Smith, if he can make the weight and Orlando Zulueta, the clever Cuban. Teddy (Red Top) Davis is a contender in both the lightweight and featherweight divisions.

Sandy Saddler, world featherweight champion, will not be discharged from the Army until April. Under the Selective Service Law he has six months before he can be required to do anything, and no doubt he will engage in a series of non-title matches before defending the championship. This is only fair, since Saddler, now stationed in Germany, has been out of the ring for nearly two years.

The NBA wants him to fight Percy Bassett, whom it crowned interim featherweight champion. A Saddler-Davis match may be in the making, since Red Top is ranked top contender by "The Ring." With Pep next in line, Mexico has a promising contender in Baby Ortiz.

ENTHUSED over the financial success of the recent Jimmy Carruthers-Henry (Pappy) Gault world bantamweight title fight, Australian promoters want to stage another championship battle. The challenger for the title held by Carruthers will be Shamron Songkitrat of Thailand or Billy (Sweet Pea) Peacock, the Philadelphian now living in California. Plans call for the fight to take place at Sydney in May. At this writing Songkitrat is favored. A big offer has been made Carruthers to fight him in Bangkok.

Peacock is the North American champion. He won the title from Gault before the latter went to Australia to fight Carruthers for the world crown. The top contender in the division is Robert Cohen of France but he doesn't want the title shot yet. He wants to wait until next Fall.

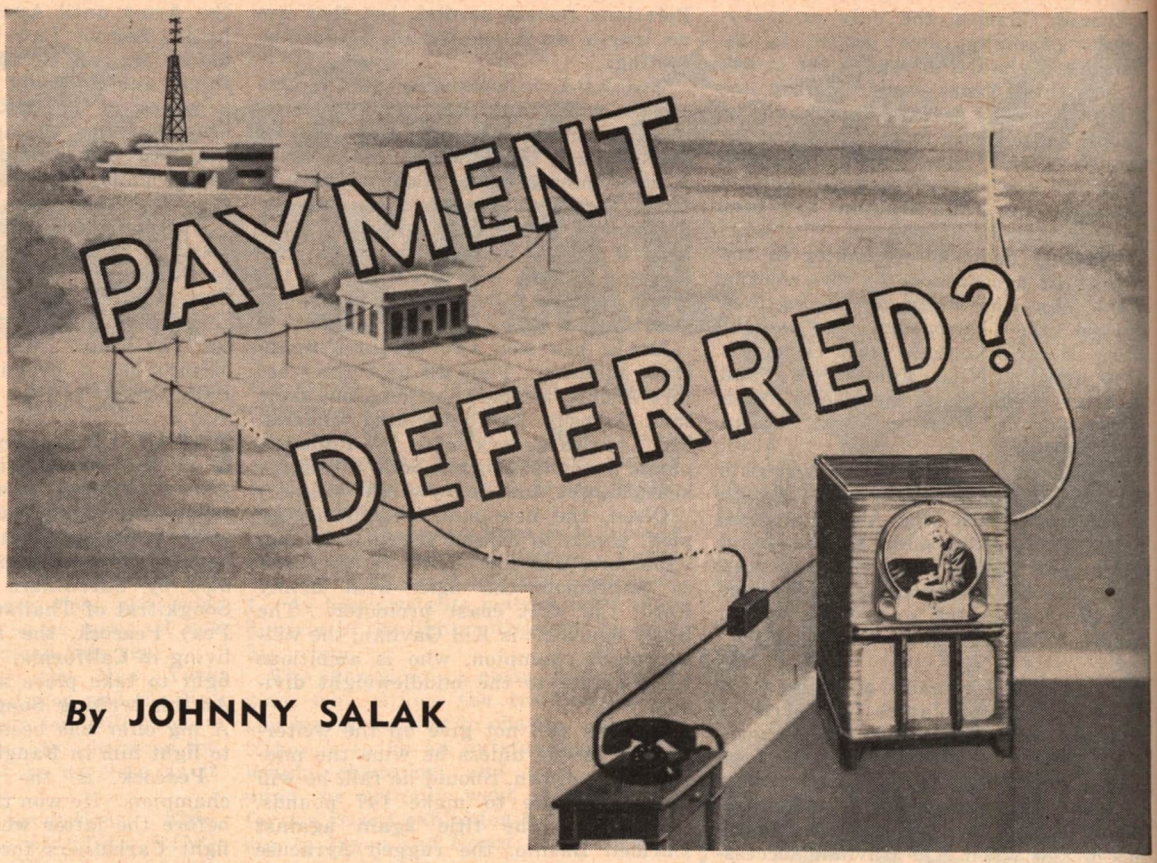
There are no flyweights in the United States and for the time being the world title appears to be safely in the hands of Yoshio Shirai of Japan. He is likely to remain in Tokyo, since his title defense against Terry Allen of England drew a large gate.

The great appeal boxing has for the public all over the world will continue in 1954. In the United States this is due in a large part to television. Because of the weekly telecasts the number of fans now run in the millions.

It is up to the I.B.C., rather than the commissions, to give these fans the title battles they demand. In this respect Norris has been a good promoter. Counting the Olson-Paddy Young American middleweight championship, the I.B.C. either promoted or co-promoted 11 title battles in five divisions last year. With Saddler in the Army the featherweight title was frozen, and still is, and in America there is no interest to speak of in the bantamweight and flyweight divisions.

The I.B.C.'s activities spread out all over the Nation, and the plan is to continue the widespread operation throughout the current year. In order to develop new material, for its Chicago Stadium fights, the I.B.C. has arranged a pact with the Rainbo Club where it will help finance that organization. The chances are that the Norris outfit may do the same with clubs in each of the major cities where it operates.

This is an excellent plan as it would create fan interest, aid the small promoters and develop talent for the large arenas.



By JOHNNY SALAK

AS far as subscription TV goes it may be later than you think. You'll probably be paying for your programs sooner than you imagine. But sooner or later it is bound to come.

Interest in this new form of video is, strangely enough, very high considering that the general public knows very little of subscription TV. Experiments, in which the public has participated, have been run but on very limited scales. What the average owner of a TV set knows he has mainly learned through articles in newspapers and magazines.

The initial fear of having invested a considerable sum of money in a television set that would merely act as a box office which would cut you off without entertainment unless you paid an exorbitant fee has been replaced with a sounder understanding and an intelligent outlook.

Subscription TV is necessary. It's necessary if bigger and better shows are to be televised. It's necessary if many of the top, large budget programs now viewed are to remain on television. The general viewer now realizes that, as far as quality is concerned, he is better off paying anywhere from ten cents to a dollar, depending on the show, to see what he wants rather than being at the mercy of sponsors and having to accept whatever they decide on or can afford.

Several companies have been working to perfect subscription TV and are now waiting for approval from the Federal Communications Commission. Among them are the Zenith Radio Corporation with their Phonevision, the International Telemeter Corporation and the Skiatron Corporation with Subscriber-vision.

A number of methods might be used to unscramble the coded, jumpy, uncertain image that would shift back and forth across the TV screen. The decoding signal can go through the air to the receiver. When the air code translator is set by means of a small card purchased at a conveniently located vending machine it utilizes the decoding signal to clear up both the picture and sound in the receivers. This method also lends itself to the sale of decoder cards, by mail or on monthly billing.

Another method is to have the decoding signal sent over the subscriber's regular telephone line and into the TV set. The decoding signal does not interfere with the use of the telephone nor does use of the telephone interfere with the picture. Collections under this method can be by monthly billing or through a coin box in the home.

Or the subscriber can pay for his program by dropping the proper amount for the program into a coin box attached to his receiver.

A decoding unit can be easily installed in any regular television set, regardless of age or make, for about the cost of an average table model radio.

IT is common knowledge that virtually all stadium and arena sports have suffered from television and even some of the best sports events have been banned from TV because of the absence of a home box office. For many events, the loss of gate receipts is greater than advertising sponsors can pay. Boxing has been trying to circumvent that by blacking out the area in which the bout is taking place, usually a 70 mile radius.

But that is only a "stop gap" experiment. Some events have been televised exclusively to theatres but the audience is limited and only a handful of the millions of fans who might want to see, say, a world championship fight can be accommodated. Subscription television would make it possible for all these sports events to be seen in the home. With a home box office all sports would gain needed economic support.

The problems the television industry have brought not only to sports but our entire way of living are many. They eventually will be ironed out, presumably to the satisfaction of all. The period we are going through now is merely the experimental stages of any new and large industry. The benefits of subscription TV to sports are many.

But more than just sports, subscription TV is a solution to the short run problem of putting the best feature motion pictures on TV, and also the long run problem of producing more and better motion pictures for all types of exhibition.

It is also a solution to the shrinking status of the legitimate stage and a return to the theatre from a few "houses" in major cities to virtually all of the homes in America. It solves the similar economic problems that have even further reduced the status of the opera and symphony, and, of course, the unsolved problem of how to develop the obviously great educational uses of television.

The public is always paying. But this is one time when it will be a pleasure to pay.

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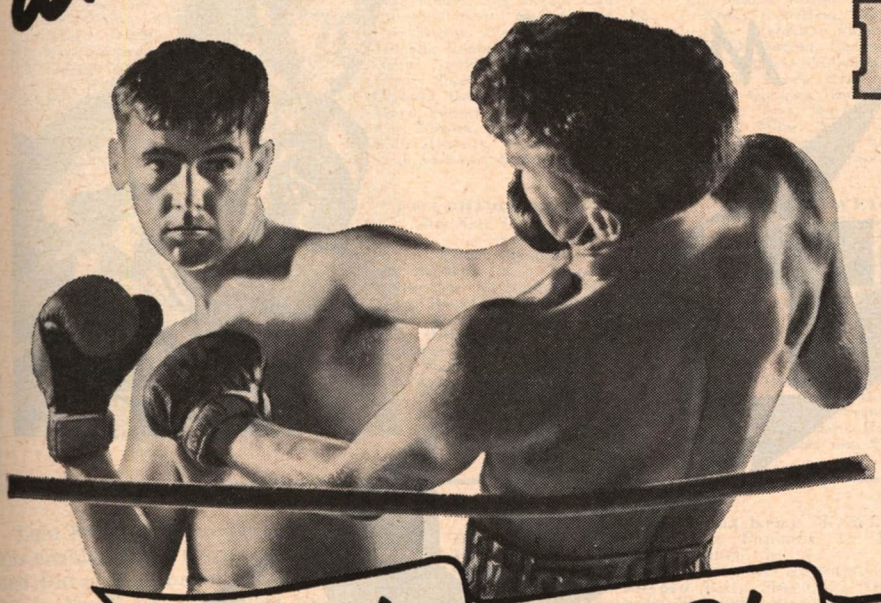

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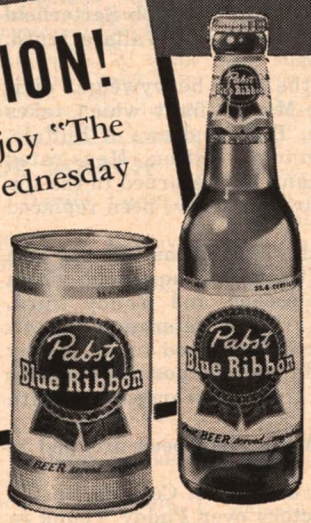

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The RING RATINGS

Charles Rated Fighter of the Month

By NAT FLEISCHER

THE first month of the new year finds a number of changes in our international ratings due to the defeats of several top men and the inactivity of others who have held high posts. In the heavyweight division, though, Ezzard Charles won his last two fights and is being considered for a world championship bout with Rocky Marciano, the man who whipped him and Heinz Neuhaus, the European title holder, Nino Valdes continues to hold down the top challenger's post with Ezzard close on his heels.

The proper way to get Rocky's next opponent, would be for the International Boxing Club to stage a return bout, an elimination between Charles and Valdes, but this is not in line with Jim Norris' plans. He and Al Weill will take no chance of knocking off Charles, since the former world champion looms as the best attraction for a Yankee Stadium bout next summer. Charles is The Ring's "Fighter of The Month".

Clarence Henry has returned to the rated ten. He takes the place of Harry Kid Matthews whose failure to get into action leaves us no choice but to discontinue him as a ranking man. Clarence is rated seventh and Bob Satterfield has been dropped to ninth spot with Coley Wallace tenth. Heinz Neuhaus is out.

There are several changes in the light heavyweight division as we approach the Moore-Maxim fight which takes place as we reach the newsstands. Paul Andrews of Buffalo, an excellent fighter, is an addition to our listing. He is rated tenth and Willi Hoepner of Germany has returned to the top ten. Billy Smith and Jacques Hairbedian have been replaced because of inactivity.

Inactivity on the part of Randy Turpin has lost for him his top challenger's post. Rocky Castellani now holds down that place with Joey Giardello second and Randy third. A Castellani vs. Giardello fight should determine Olson's next opponent. Either would give Bobo a good tussle. Bobby Dykes and Pierre Langlois again occupy positions among the elite. Dykes' win over Joey Giambra earned him fifth position.

Holly Mims is eighth. Paddy Young had been dropped to ninth and Langlois is tenth.

Though Billy Graham lost and drew with Carmen Basilio during his 1953 campaign, his victory over Paddy Young in one of Billy's finest performances, has upped the New York City welterweight from fifth to second place. While Basilio is clamoring for a title shot, and on his year's performances is entitled to it, it will be unwise for him to wait for Kid Gavilan. A sellout bout would be a return match between Basilio and Graham in the Garden. A Gavilan-Olson match has been made for the middleweight crown. Should Olson defeat Gavilan, then Basilio will be first in line for a welterweight championship contest.

Paddy De Marco has made a big leap among the lightweights. His victory over the highly ranked Ralph Dupas has enabled him to jump from ninth post to fourth. Dupas lost ground, dropping from third to fifth. Only the fact that De Marco lost matches to Gonsalves and Zulueta last year, keep him at this writing from being ranked next to Wallace Buddy Smith as the number two challenger. But he fits into the picture for a shot at Jimmy Carter's lightweight title even as fourth rated lightie.

Joe Brown has replaced Armand Savoie and is in ninth post.

In the feather class, Percy Bassett is on the heels of Willie Pep for a bout with Sandy Saddler. Pep has gained the top post with Bassett in second place. Teddy Davis is rated third due to his poor showing against Tony De Marco.

RING RATINGS FOR THE MONTH

Ending January 18, 1954

HEAVYWEIGHTS
(Over 175 pounds)

World Champion
Rocky Marciano, Brockton, Mass.
1—Nino Valdes, Cuba
2—Ezzard Charles, Cincinnati, O.
3—Dan Bucceroni, Philadelphia, Pa.
4—Roland LaStarza, New York, N. Y.
5—Earl Walls, Toronto, Canada
6—Don Cockell, London, England
7—Clarence Henry, Los Angeles, Calif.
8—Tommy Harrison, Oakland, Calif.
9—Bob Satterfield, Chicago, Ill.
10—Coley Wallace, New York, N. Y.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
(Not over 175 pounds)

World Champion
Archie Moore, San Diego, Calif.
1—Harold Johnson, Philadelphia, Pa.
2—Joey Maxim, Cleveland, O.
3—Yolande Pompey, Trinidad, BWI.
4—Danny Nardico, Tampa, Fla.
5—Jimmy Slade, New York, N. Y.
6—Gerhard Hecht, Germany
7—Floyd Patterson, Brooklyn, N. Y.
8—Alex Buxton, England
9—Willi Hoepner, Germany
10—Paul Andrews, Buffalo, N. Y.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(Not over 160 pounds)

World Champion
Carl (Bobo) Olson, Honolulu, T. H.
1—Rocky Castellani, Cleveland, O.
2—Joey Giardello, Philadelphia, Pa.
3—Randy Turpin, England
4—Gil Turner, Philadelphia, Pa.
5—Bobby Dykes, Miami, Fla.
6—Joey Giambra, Buffalo, N. Y.
7—Willie Troy, Washington, D. C.
8—Holly Mims, Washington, D. C.
9—Paddy Young, New York, N. Y.
10—Pierre Langlois, France

WELTERWEIGHTS
(Not over 147 pounds)

World Champion
Kid Gavilan, Cuba
1—Carmen Basilio, Syracuse, N. Y.
2—Billy Graham, New York, N. Y.
3—Johnny Bratton, Chicago, Ill.
4—Del Flanagan, St. Paul, Minn.
5—Johnny Saxton, Brooklyn, N. Y.
6—Ramon Fuentes, Los Angeles, Calif.
7—Art Aragon, Los Angeles, Calif.
8—Freddie Dawson, Chicago, Ill.
9—Chico Varona, Cuba
10—Gilbert Lavoine, France

LIGHTWEIGHTS
(Not over 135 pounds)

World Champion
James Carter, New York, N. Y.
1—Wallace (Bud) Smith, Cincinnati, O.
2—Eddie Chavez, San Jose, Calif.
3—Orlando Zulueta, Cuba
4—Paddy DeMarco, Brooklyn, N. Y.
5—Ralph Dupas, New Orleans, La.
6—Johnny Gonsalves, Oakland, Calif.
7—Arthur Persley, Red Crosse, La.
8—George Araujo, Providence, R. I.
9—Joe Brown, New Orleans, La.
10—Arthur King, Toronto, Canada

FEATHERWEIGHTS
(Not over 126 pounds)

World Champion
Sandy Saddler, (U. S. Army)
1—Willie Pep, Hartford, Conn.
2—Percy Bassett, Philadelphia, Pa.
3—Teddy Davis, Hartford, Conn.
4—Baby Ortiz, Mexico City, Mexico
5—Lulu Perez, Brooklyn, N. Y.
6—Dave Gallardo, Los Angeles, Calif.
7—Roy Ankarh, West Africa
8—Jean Sneyers, Belgium
9—Ray Famechon, France
10—Bill Bossio, Harsdale, N. Y.

BANTAMWEIGHTS
(Not over 118 pounds)

World Champion
Jimmy Carruthers, Australia
1—Robert Cohen, France
2—Chamrern Songkitrat, Thailand
3—Billy Peacock, Los Angeles, Calif.
4—John Kelly, Ireland
5—Henry (Pappy) Gault, Spartanburg, S. C.
6—Raton Macias, Mexico
7—Pierre Cossemyns, Belgium
8—Andre Valignat, France
9—Gaetano Annaloro, Italy
10—Maurice Sandeyron, France

FLYWEIGHTS
(Not over 112 pounds)

World Champion
Yoshiro Shirai, Japan
1—Jake Tuli, South Africa
2—Leo Espinosa, Phillipines
3—Tanny Campo, Phillipines
4—Terry Allen, England
5—Louis Skena, France
6—Vic Herman, Scotland
7—Charley Bohbot, West Africa
8—Nazzarino Giannelli, Italy
9—Young Martin, Spain
10—Dai Dower, Wales

Lulu Perez's win over Dave Gallardo has enabled Lulu to jump to fifth place and Dave remains in sixth. His showing in the Perez bout was too good to bring a penalty for his defeat.

Chamrern Songkitrat's triumph over Henry Pappy Gault in Bangkok boosted the stock of the Thailand lad. He is now next to Robert Cohen of France as the second best bantam with Billy Peacock third and John Kelly and Gault, following.

Dai Dower of Wales has replaced Emile Delplangue as tenth flyweight. He is undefeated. Here are the month's leading results:

HEAVYWEIGHTS

Ezzard Charles kayoed Bob Satterfield.

Clarence Henry easily outpointed Bob Baker, 10.

Dan Bucceroni defeated Hein Ten Hoff, 10.

Embrell Davidson kayoed George Powell, 8.

Bob Dunlap kayoed George Parmentier, 8.

Oscar Pharo beat Frank DiGrazio, 6, and Al Hunter, 6.

Jimmy Walls halted Ernie Sheppard, 2.

Hans Friedrich stopped Hans Streleckl, 2.

Ken Hammer beat Stan Mylinski, 8.

Ingemar Johansson returned to action after ninemonths' layoff to stop Raymond Degl 'Innocenti, 2.

Jackie Janson kayoed Kenny Yates, 6.

Yates kayoed Bob Sullivan 1, and lost to Hal Neely, 6.

Neely also lost to Billy Pappas, 6.

Dave Ragus kayoed Buddy Graham, 3.

Australian Champion Ken Brady outpointed Chub Keith.

Chuck Ross kayoed Gus Bruno, 5.

Claude Rolfe beat Al Heard, 6.

James Cartwright whipped Zeke Robinson, 6.

Jack Williams defeated Baby Dutch Culbertson, 6.

Culbertson also lost to Jimmy Sheets, 6.

Mike DeJohn kayoed Syl Kuchinski, 2.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Paul Andrews stopped Larry Watson, 7.

Joe Parsons scored upset decision over George Walker, 8.

Billy Kilgore whipped Mickey Laurent, 10.

Stan Mylinski lost to heavyweight Ken Hammer, 8.

Jimmy Davis outpointed Fred Jackson, 8.

Johnny Barton halted Ken Millson, 4.

Jean Corhay drew with Tiberio Mitri, 10.

Marty Marshall defeated Herbie Moore, 10.

Irwin Schulz defeated Tommy Thompson, 6.

Willi Besmanoff whipped Ray Schmit.

Don Grant kayoed Jesse Fuentes, 5.

Harvey Taylor kayoed Bull Holsey, 3.

Tino Longoria defeated Earl Keel, 10.

Waddell Hanna kayoed Ray Bryan, 6.

Leo Johnson defeated Floyd Morris, 6.

Jimmy Jewell defeated Dave Roy, 6.

Roger Wiley stopped Joe Grimard, 5.

Johnny Jenkins stopped Walter Cunningham, 5.

Freddy Miller kayoed Doug Kemp, 3.

Willi Hoepner flattened Giuliano Pancani, 1.

Al Hogan stoped Tony Lomonaco, 2.

Dick Moody kayoed Sylvester Stewart, 4.

Jimmy Robinson kayoed Billy Mayo, 1.

Domingo Lopez became Spanish champion by decisioning Bautista Navarro, 12.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Joey Giardello stopped Garth Panter, 5.

Bobby Dykes outpointed Joey Giambra, 10.

Paddy Young lost to welterweight Billy Graham, 10.

Pierre Langlois drew with welterweight Carmen Basilio, 10.

Chico Vejar beat Pat Manzi, 10 and beat Pierre Hernandez, 10.

Willie Vaughn upset Charlie Green, 12.

Nelson de Andrade won the Brazilian title by outpointing Paulo Zacoman, 12.

Walter Cartier defeated Randy Sandy, 10.

Ron Duncombe halted Terence Murphy, 4.

Murphy previously kayoed Gerry Peters, 1.

Al Andrews defeated Pat Lowry, 10, and Joey Klein, 10.

Jimmy Martinez outpointed Tony Masciarelli, 10.

Kid Aztec drew with Augustin Vega, 10.

Tony Anthony kayoed Roy Alston, 4, and Richie Anderson, 4.

Jesse Turner stopped Chuck Coleman, 5.

George Benton beat Bobby Jones, 10.

Bobby Hughes kayoed Billy Hatcher, 4, and beat Ben Skelton, 8.

Charlie Sawyer stopped Roy Daniels, 9.

Bobby Boyd stopped Hank Henderson, 3.

Reno Abellira stopped Woody Winslow, 8.

Stanley Jones beat Johnny Wells, 6, and Lloyd Nelson, 6, kayoed Joe Robinson, 2.

George Holzman beat Gary Simon, 6, and Eddie Springer, 8.

Pedro Gonzales whipped Nenos Solomon, 10.

Solomon stopped Red Elby, 6.

Hurley Sanders outscored Phil Rizzo, 8.

Rizzo also lost to Bob Provizzi, 8.

Tobe Harris defeated Billy Trero, 6.

Eddie Smith kayoed Ray Young, 2, and Cassel Tate, 1.

Joe Shaw kayoed Wilfredo Miro, 5.

Andy Mayfield defeated Jimmy Morris, 10.

Charlie Sawyer kayoed Earl Turner, 6.

PROSPECTS FOR MARCH

HEAVYWEIGHT — Harold Carter, Linden, N. J.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT — Harvey Taylor, Los Angeles, Calif.

MIDDLEWEIGHT — Marty Feldman, Philadelphia, Pa.

WELTERWEIGHT — Chuck Adkins, Gary, Ind.

LIGHTWEIGHT — Andy Escobar, Hollywood, Calif.

FEATHERWEIGHT — Don Martin, Formby, England.

BANTAMWEIGHT — Jorge Valverde, Torreon, Mexico.

FLYWEIGHT — Jackie Spurgeon, New York City, N. Y.

Franz Szuzina drew with Ivano Fontana, 10.

Tim Jones defeated Gene Washington, 6.

Harry Braelow beat Bobby Lopez, 10.

Lopez also lost to Gerry Frazier, 6.

Spider Webb halted Lloyd Triplett, 3, and Jesse Gray, 3.

Clem Florio defeated Cobey McCluskey, 6.

Jimmy Beecham stopped Al Heath, 2.

Alfie Sands flattened Jack Smith, 1, and outpointed Pat Kenny, 12.

Angelo Urgitano defeated Ray Drake, 6.

Loren Pro stopped Spencer Coleman, 5.

Johnny Sullivan halted Bruce Crawford, 4.

Henry Bronko beat Chuck Price, 6 (twice).

Tommy Smith beat Willie Grey, 6, and Jackie Wilson, 8.

Neal Rivers halted Ernie Greer, 2.

Eddie Andrews beat Toby Silvia, 6, and kayoed Joe O'Connell, 1.

Carlos Martinez kayoed Armando Cotero, 4, and beat Jesse Robles, 10.

Bruno Tripodi polished off Franz Ehringer, 9.

Jorge Castro whipped Memo Garmendia, 10.

Tiberio Mitri continued comeback campaign by decisioning Constant Alcantara and Michel Aubignat, but was held to draw by light-heavyweight Jean Corhay, all tens.

Gustav Scholz blasted out Baby Day, 3.

Eddie Miller beat Bob Gordon, 6.

Italo Scortichini drew with welter Carmen Basilio.

WELTERWEIGHTS

Billy Graham defeated Paddy Young, 10.

Del Flanagan decisioned Johnny Saxton, 10.

Carmen Basilio drew with middleweights Pierre Langlois, 10 and Italo Scortichini, 10.

Billy Lauderdale whipped Larry Mujica, 10.

Wilbur Wilson stopped Livo Minelli, 10.

Joe Miceli kayoed Jesse Keeler, 2.

Paolo Melis won the Italian welterweight title by outpointing Lugi Valentini, 12.

Allie Gronik halted Harold Lyons, 8.

Ken Regan stopped Phil Mellish, 7.

Vince Martinez kayoed Jimmy Bethea, 2.

Bunty Adamson squared previous defeat by beating Peter Smith, 10.

Ramon Tiscareno stopped Chu Chu Jiminez, 5.

Lew Lazar outpointed Jackie Braddock, 8.

Johnny Brown outfought Sam Kelly, 8.

Roy Andrews drew with Ben Miloud, 8.

Ken McPhee defeated Len Kupchak, 10, (twice).

Oscar Reyes whipped Frankie Skidmore, 10.

Otho Sligar beat George Easterling, 10.

Kid Charolito kayoed Kid Tariche, 6.

Joe Castaneda drew with Ernesto Molina, 10.

Rudy Martinez nodded Roy Daniels, 6.

Billy Lauderdale defeated Al Jeurgens, 10.

Kid Paragon stopped Salvador Davila, 6.

Willie Gray outpointed Billy Andy, 10, but lost to Tommy Smith, 6.

Emerson Butcher drew with Tony Necro, 6, and stopped Jose Fuentes, 5.

Billy Sudduth kayoed Rusty Cleek, 3.

Willie Johnson kayoed Clarence Williams, 1.

Danny Josephs Jr. whipped Bobby English, 6, and stopped Rocky Sullivan, 4.

Chuck Adkins kayoed Isaac Vaughan, 3.

Ernie Greer defeated Emil Barao, 6.

Don Southern defeated Billy Mays, 8.

Don Jordan whipped Dave Cervantes, 6.

Darby Brown polished off George Kapeen,

(*Continued on page* 30)

When Is A Boy A Man?

Patterson Case Poses Problem.

By TED CARROLL

IN most parts of the civilized world 21 is the magic age which transforms an adolescent into an adult, although many a teen-ager makes the sudden transition from childhood to maturity by way of a military uniform. The argument that if an 18-year-old is ripe enough to be shot at, he should be old enough for anything else is always cropping up here and there. A similar situation has plagued the boxing overseers for many years. Namely, should an underage contender be allowed to meet the sternest competition in long contests?

The New York Commission and other official boxing bodies have in the case of Floyd Patterson, teen age pugilistic prodigy from Brooklyn, a puzzler which figures to keep them awake nights. The undefeated 1953 Rookie of the Year, is obviously ready for the best of the lightheavyweights, but he is only 18, which means that if the New York rules are adhered to, he won't be allowed to fight a ten rounder for two more years.

Under the Empire State boxing bylaws, 6 rounds is the longest any 18-year-old can box professionally, 8 rounds is the limit for a boy of 19, and he must have passed his 20th birthday before he can box a ten round bout.

Technically 6 of Patterson's bouts have been 'illegal' as they were of 8 rounds duration, and it now turns out that instead of being legally old enough to go that distance, he was 18 instead. Jacking up a fighter's age is a time honored trick in the boxing business, and there have even been cases where birth records of older persons were used by under-age applicants for licenses.

• • •

While the intent of the 20 year rule in New York is very good, being clearly designed to protect the physical development of the youngster, and also to prevent his being subjected to pressure too great for such tender years, its idea runs contrary to the careers of most of the great boxers of the past.

Patterson is far from being the first teen-ager to show the kind of promise he is showing. That all-time great of the featherweights, Terry McGovern, would have been in a tight spot had such an edict been operative when he was fighting. The old Brooklyn Terror, was World Bantamweight Champion at 19, World Featherweight Champion at 20 and was past his prime at 21! The natural conclusion here would be that such an early finish makes the modern ruling look very good, but in contradiction to that opinion, consider the case of the old Phantom of Philadelphia Tommy Loughran.

In 1922, at 19, Loughran was tangling with such titans as Harry Greb and Gene Tunney. Every bout he had that year was against a champion or near-champion. Besides Greb and Tunney, such names as Mike McTigue, Lou Bogash and Bryan Downey were included in his list of foes of 32 years ago.

A year later, Loughran made his first appearance in New York. His opponent, none other than Harry Greb! When Loughran climbed through the ropes, the old Madison Sq. Garden crowd gasped in amazement. "What—there must be some mistake! This choir boy can't be the fellow who's been fighting guys like Greb!" said a startled old-timer.

Before he had reached his 21st milestone, Loughran had been through five scuffles with Greb, three with McTigue, two with Jeff Smith, and has also boxed Young Stribling, Ted Moore, and the great Jack Delaney.

How did such rugged early years affect Loughran's career? In strong contrast to McGovern, Tommy thrived on it, remained in the ring for 18 years and in 1942, at the age of 40, was in such remarkable physical condition he was accepted for service in the U. S. Marines.

Loughran's career would seem to be a boost for the "tougher-the better-" school of thought, which argues that a kid either has it or hasn't, so toss him in there with the tough ones as soon a possible and get it over with.

Loughran himself is inclined to believe this, using his own history as Exhibit-A.

Unlike McGovern, who was all offense, Loughran took the Art of Self Defense literally, and he was geared to withstand his rugged youthful campaigning. By concentrating on superb boxing Tommy was able to remain undamaged in his tough early bouts. Tommy mastered the fine points of defensive boxing so well, he added years to his career. His early battles against the big timers helped rather than hurt him.

• • •

Those old time California aces, Eddie Hanlon and Abe Attell, had experiences parallelling those of McGovern and Loughran. Hanlon, like Terrible Terry was the dynamic type battler, while still in his teens he was engaging top-notchers in gruelling twenty round contests and he was through at 21.

Attell, also got a very early start, but soon realized that to last in the business, you had to learn something about avoiding punishment. In 1900 at the age of 18 he was meeting the great but fading George Dixon for the vacated featherweight title. Attell credits Dixon for making him see the light, and he began to really work on his cleverness. Abe got so good at it, he went on to become one of the greatest boxers of them all, and lasted 13 years as a top-notcher.

Georges Carpentier was one of the boy wonders of the ring. At 15 he was meeting Charles Ledoux for the bantamweight championship of France. At 18 he was European welterweight champion, at 19 he was meeting men like Willie Lewis and former middleweight champions Billy Papke, and Frank Klaus.

He was only 21 at the outbreak of World War I and was already heavyweight champion of Europe, with remarkable showings against U. S. heavies Joe Jeannette and Gunboat Smith behind him, although he was still only a middleweight.

In 1927, 19 years after his first bout, the Orchid Man campaigned in the States, performing creditably for a man of his years.

In his last visit to this country in 1948 Georges looked surprisingly well preserved, youthful, and handsome at 54.

• • •

A QUARTER century ago the New York Boxing Commission was putting restrictions on the fighting routes of the teeners. The two bouts with Jack Delaney which made Jimmy Slattery a reigning fistic sensation for a time were both limited to 6 rounds because the Buffalo boy was underage. The deliberate Delaney couldn't catch up with the flashy 19-year-older the first time they met in 1925, and 5 months later, Slattery's speed carried him to another victory over the hard hitting Bridgeporter.

Being exposed to tough competition at an early age didn't particularly harm Slattery. Young Stribling and Harry Greb were among his rivals when he was only 18. Slattery won a claim to the light heavy title later on and boxed for 12 years. A performer of fantastic grace and skill, Jimmy had the potential to have scaled even greater heights had he taken things more seriously, and conditioned himself more thoroughly.

The famous New York neighborhood classic between Sid Terris and Ruby Goldstein at the Polo Grounds in 1927 had to be cut to 6 heats because Ruby was only 19, and there were numerous other such cases back in those days.

Some far-seeing souls got around this age restriction by adding a few years on the boxer's original application. Tony Canzoneri is said to have been only 16, instead of the required 18, when he made his professional bow. If this is so, and the record book confirms it, by the time he

(*Continued on page* 39)

Nat FLEISCHER says:

Charles to Get Another Chance at Title

Bat Nelson Follows Wolgast's Footsteps

Bright Prospects For Boxing This Year.

IT isn't often that a fighter gets more than two chances to fight for a world title in the heavyweight division. But if the improvement displayed by Ezzard Charles in his fights in California with Coley Wallace and Bob Satterfield in Chicago, is a criterion, then the Cincinnati former champion will be in line for another shot at the crown he lost by a knockout to Jersey Joe Walcott.

As a safety-first fighter, he won the crown by outpointing Walcott but his lackadaisical ring display annoyed the fight fans and made him a poor attraction. He failed to capture the imagination of fight followers, lacked popularity and quickly lost prestige. This despite the fact that every fight in which he engaged was one in which he tried his utmost to give his best.

Now things have changed. He realizes that he is getting old as fighters go and that there isn't much time left to reap the benefits that come to those who are on top or close to it. He has started an all-out drive to regain his lost prestige and the chances are that he will succeed.

He's now taking chances he wouldn't take when he was king of his division. He permitted Valdez and Harold Johnson to defeat him though he is a superior all-around fighter to each.

It was pleasing to those who have followed the career of Charles to see him discard his care-free fighting and assume the "killer" role when he had Wallace within reach of a knockout. He boxed beautifully and struck out in Joe Louis style to regain the acclaim of the crowd.

Charles has what it takes and we are happy to note his comeback. Boxing needs the likes of him. He's a well educated splendid fellow, a pugilist who is an honor to his profession.

• • •

Pity that the recent benefit for Battling Nelson was called off. The old warrior, ill and in poverty, hoped to obtain a sufficient sum to enable him and his wife to go to California to spend the rest of his days, but with the exception of several old timers who remembered the Battler by contributing small sums, the interest was so meagre that those in charge called off the affair. The little collected, about $2500 was turned over to Nelson only a few weeks prior to his most recent illness but what happened to the money is a mystery for he was penniless when taken to the hospital.

Following the small gift, came the shock that caused his derangement. His wife died and the Battler, a lonely old man who during 22 years of ring activity had acquired a fortune, which he had lost through poor investments, was moved from his room in a small hotel to the psychopathic ward of a Chicago hospital, one more victim of head punching. Like Ad Wolgast, who is in a mental institution in San Francisco, Nelson loved fighting. The tougher they were and the harder the fight, the more he liked it. Lacking science, he took more punches than were good for him and like others of the "come-on-in-and-mix-it" type, he paid the penalty.

Boxing has changed considerably since the days when Wolgast and Nelson were at the top. Long-distance fights are a thing of the past. Medical supervision prevents lads in the majority of cases from becoming wards of the State.

The Commissions see to it that when a boy reaches a stage where continued boxing will bring him to the danger stage, his license is revoked and he is prevented from plying his trade any longer. That's why we have so few reports of pugilists advancing into the "punchy" stage.

To be true there are such cases, but compared to the records of the past, the number has been reduced to a minimum. If Boxing Commissions have done one thing for the betterment of the sport, it is the curbing of cases such as Wolgast and Nelson present.

One champion meets another. Rocky Marciano shakes the hand of Yoship Shirai in Tokyo where Rocky went for an exhibition. It was Shirai's first peek at a world heavyweight king.

• • •

Nelson was the original Golden Boy of Boxing. The kid from the rough Hegewisch district of Chicago mowed down the greatest lightweights of all time who thrived during his era. Take a quick look at his career.

He was born in 1882 in Denmark and was christened Oscar Matthew Battling Nielsen. Battling is a Viking word meaning formidable.

He was the first "Battling" of the ring. Others following took the name from him.

As a kid he saw prize fights staged clandestinely in Hegewisch where his folks settled after emigrating to America. He theorized that boxing was a game where prime physical condition spelled victory and he trained as no other fighter in history trained to reach his goal.

He toughened his skin with pickling brine so he wouldn't cut nor bruise. His pulse was seldom over 55. He could fight all day. He was like concrete. The toughest punchers could not phase him.

Battling Nelson as he looked when in his prime.

One-Eyed Connolly, picturesque sports character who lived largely on the reputation of the Original One-Eyed Connolly, world famous gate crasher.

One by one he stood over the greats of boxing as they took the ten count in the ring. He knocked out the great Joe Gans twice, Young Corbett twice, Jimmy Britt, Eddie Hanlon, Martin Canole, Fighting Dick Hyland, and Spider Welsh to mention only a few, and he beat every comer in the land.

Crowds followed him in the streets. He was the idol of Goldfield, of San Francisco, of Chicago—of America. He was in his day what Dempsey was to U. S. fans a few years later. Nelson was the Lightweight Champion of the world. He lost the title in the 40th round of his vicious fight with Ad Wolgast, when the referee stopped the contest because Nelson was blind and could only stumble after his opponent.

He married Fay King, the glamorous cartoonist of his era and she broke his heart when she quit him. He lived a glamorous life but he never smoked nor drank. He heard the plaudits of the crowd and he loved it. He was the great hero in over 100 ring battles—A Champion of Champions.

And he ended up in a daze in a dingy room left vacant by the death of the only person who loved him—broke . . .ill . . . undernourished . . . forgotten by a goofy world that had paid him homage when he was on top as a title holder. A shell of *The Golden Boy of Goldfield.*

• • •

THE New Year started off well in boxing with above the average number of spectators in attendance. The general outlook for 1954 is better than what was in store for promoters the previous year. More and better talent is available and with the opening of a number of clubs that had not operated in 1953, the chances for a big pickup in attandance and receipts, seem bright.

In Paris the day after New Years, Percy Bassett, the N.B.A. featherweight interim champion knocked out Jacques Herbillon, French lightweight king in the opening round before a gathering of 15000. Previously Bassett had stopped Louis Carrera, another title holder, in one round and had lost to Joseph Jannsens in Brussels.

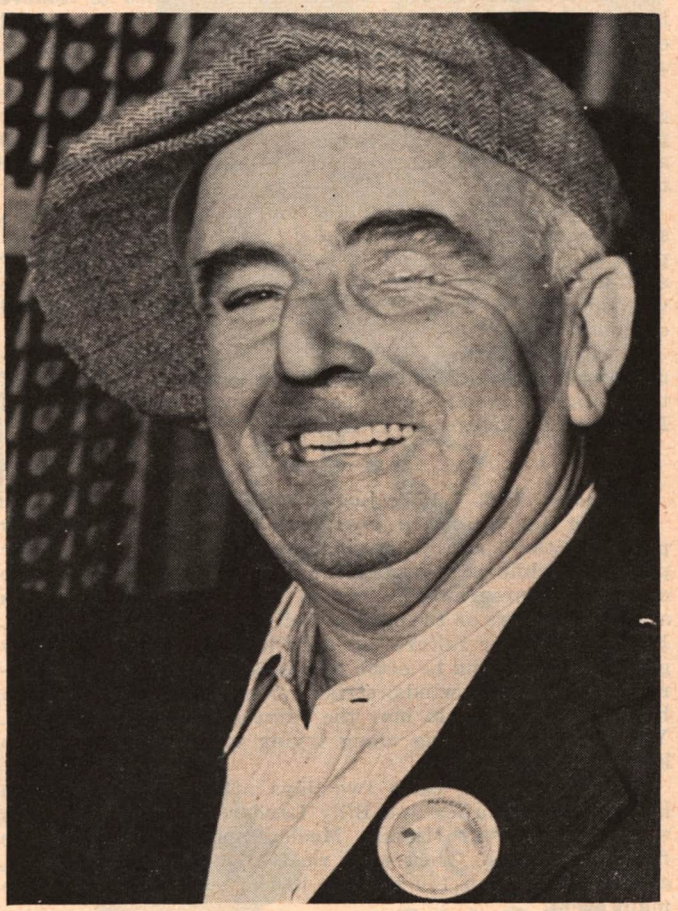
The victory over Herbillon makes Bassett a logical opponent for Sandy Saddler, world champion, who will be out of the U. S. Army shortly. Such bout is as good as any that can be made for the title holder.

Lulu Perez and Willie Pep also are hot on the trail of Sandy and according to the International Boxing Club, which holds contracts over each, the winner of their bout this month will be first in line for a shot at the world crown. The featherweight field is well stacked with good talent hence there should be plenty of opportunity for the top men to get into high bracket contests. A bout between the Perez-Pep winner vs. Bassett, with the victor matched for the world title with Saddler, would be a most satisfactory arrangement.

In the lightweight division, the victory of Paddy De Marco over Ralph Dupas in New Orleans before a crowd of 8000, saw the New Orleans 18-year-old lightie in his first defeat. But it couldn't be construed as a setback since it was the kid's first ten rounder and he lost by a split decision that didn't meet with popular approval.

Watching the bout on television, the verdict seemed to be a fair one, but as so frequently has been remarked in these columns. observing a contest at the ringside, and on TV, often result in opinions that differ. However, the triumph puts Paddy back in the running for a shot at Jimmy Carter's world title. He is an acceptable opponent.

As for Dupas, the bout gave him added experience which he needs. It proved one point however, that contrary to the



opinion of many of the New Orleans fans who hitherto had dubbed Ralph a feather duster battler who fights only in spurts and clutches when hit, Dupas, against the tough De Marco showed the opposite. He did a lot of counter punching but he took all Paddy had to offer, came in banging away punch for punch and showed that he is ready to tackle the world's top lightweights. We made no mistake when we rated him Number Three in our ANNUAL Ranking of Boxers despite the De Marco defeat.

• • •

The death of One-eyed Connolly on December 21 brought a lot of confusion in the stories of his escapades. Few among those who wrote about his passing were aware of the fact that though he called himself "One-Eyed Connolly", he infringed on the original gate crasher who went by that

name. The Original One-Eyed, was a character whose exploits were recorded in the headlines of the sports pages long before the later copyist gained fame as a gate crasher. He too followed the same procedure, but the later Connolly lived largely on the reputation of his predecessor and often was credited with deeds that belonged to the Original One-Eyed.

Whereas the later Connolly was a native of Lowell, Mass., the original one hailed from London. He arrived in Boston in 1879. His crashing began shortly after he reached America and didn't let up until 1902, the year that he died in Chicago while serving a 30 day workhouse sentence for disorderly conduct.

He was a boxer of ability who showed in the Hub at the Music Hall the night that Joe Goss had a benefit staged for him, with John L. Sullivan among those who gave exhibitions. That was back in 1880. He fought among others Fiddler Neary, Red Connolly, L. Wetzel Brown of Maine and many others and was handled by Professor Connolly, his brother, a ringster of considerable skill. In those days glove bouts were added entertainment features in the saloon-sporting resort combinations, and One-Eyed Connolly often displayed his wares.

As a gate crasher he was supreme. The later One-Eyed was no comparison. The original Connolly used to remove his glass optic and hand it for safe keeping to a second every time he boxed as was the case with Joe Walcott and his false teeth.

Like the person whom he copied, the late James Connolly gained world fame by his antics. He crashed the gates at political rallies as well as fight shows, and often gained admission at parties through ruses that were practiced by the Original One-Eyed.

The original James Connolly was a versatile individual, soft spoken, well educated, stately built, a man who could pass off as a "gentleman". He was a fighter, writer, lecturer and actor and prized himself also on being a "hobo". He was one of the best known characters in the sports and entertainment field.

The James Connolly who died a few weeks ago at the age of 84, profited by much that had been the property of the James Connolly who passed away in the Bridwell Hospital of Chicago, in 1902.

• • •

Promoter Jack Laken just won't learn.

During the past five years he has travelled to many parts of the country staging fights—benefit affairs for police and children's organizations among others. Of course on all such programs he had at least one member of his stable of fighters on the card, usually the headline attraction. But failure after failure has been his fate. No matter how good his show—and he often has arranged excellent cards—rain, snow, heavy winds, strikes or some other unforeseen hazard cropped up to mar the success of his undertaking. Yet he keeps plugging along trying to open new fields to keep his boys active.

His latest shock came two days after Christmas when he had Larry Mujica and Billy Lauderdale scheduled for a ten round bout at Miami's Medley Speedway arena. The fighters reported. They were ready for action, but Laken, counting less than 150 persons in the house, called off the main event.

Laken is one of the few old timers still in the game, but Television has struck heavily against him. The majority of the small clubs where he operated around the country are closed. It's the trend of the time.

Soon we'll have only one promoter, the International Boxing Club, taking over the country's boxing with only here and there a small organization taking a chance on bucking the monopoly.

• • •

The death of Jack Cappell who put Jack Solomons into a position during World War Two that enabled him eventually to emerge the kingpin of European boxing promoters, recalls the unsuccessful battle for supremacy which Cappell waged against his erstwhile partner to regain the prestige that was Cappell's prior to Solomon's sudden rise to fame and fortune. It was a bitter struggle in which Solomons, playing the game as did Mike Jacobs in America, triumphed and put his opponent out of the fistic business.

Another Italian freak: Steve Klaus, American boxing instructor who is trainer for the Italian Federation boxers, doesn't think so. He is sending Milo Maligoli, towering seven feet and weighing 270 pounds to the States highly recommended as a heavyweight prospect. In Italy, they call Milo the "Man Mountain Fighter."

Today Solomons has a hold on British boxing that defies the efforts of those who would dislodge him and all because he was a far smarter operator than was the man who in 1937 placed Solomons in charge as his matchmaker at the Royal Albert Hall. Perhaps it was a case of the survival of the fittest as some of the British scribes have said, but there was more to it than that. Solomons, backed by the strong British Boxing Board of Control and the leading managers whose fighters he had sewed up, had the upper hand almost from the start of his battle for control with Cappell. Every offer Cappell made was outbid by Solomons.

Cappell, in true Horatio Alger spirit, fought his way up to several fortunes. In 1920 he came to Canada to make his bid as a financial genius and soon amassed a quarter of a million dollars. But investments in the New York stock market wiped him out in 1929, as it did thousands of Americans.

But that didn't halt Cappell. He returned to England, purchased odds and ends to enter the export business and soon again found himself in the going. But then came the war and he lost his second fortune.

This time he decided on buying old army shoes which he figured he could have repaired and with the shortage due to the world struggle, he could sell at a profit. But leather was too scarce. He couldn't obtain any and the money he had spent to pile up a huge reserve of boots, was sunk in the English Channel where he had to dump his stock after hiring barge to remove the collection.

Up to three years ago he continued on a small scale to dabble in fisticuffs but found the going too tough with heavy losses sustained every time he put on a card and he finally admitted defeat and let Jack Solomons carry on without any further interference. But he did succeed in making a fourth comeback. He was the head of a huge export firm with a branch in New York that is operated by his son. Cappell was as well known throughout Europe as is Solomons. He was frequently seen at the ring side of the major European fights.

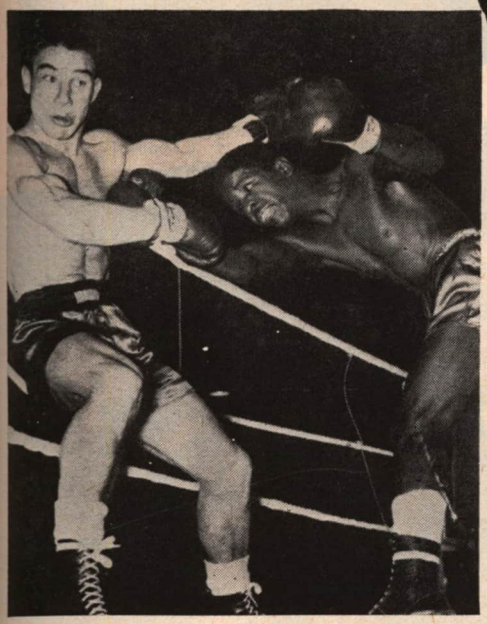
• • •

The death of Rocky Kansas in Buffalo a few weeks ago from cancer, adds one more fistic celebrity who has succumbed to the dreaded disease within the past three years. At the age of 58, the former world lightweight king who ruled the roost shortly after Benny Leonard had retired from the division, brings back memories of thrilling battles in which he and others of his period engaged in at a time when boxing was loaded with top talent such as we do not find today. Even with Leonard out of the game, there were plenty of excellent lightweights available to keep the pot boiling.

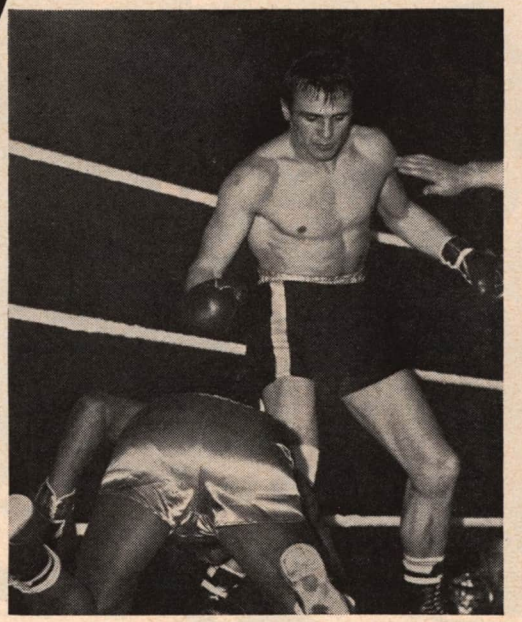
Like Leonard and others of his time, Kansas invested his money in stocks and real estate only to have Kid Depression sock him for a knockout. He lost a quarter of a million dollars in 1929.

Percy Bassett (right) punches Belgian Joseph Janssens into the ropes during their bout in Brussels but Janssens won the ten round decision after Bassett had been warned twice for butting with his head.

Gustav Scholz, undefeated German middleweight, stands over Baby Day after scoring a knockdown. Day was counted out in this, the third round. The bout held at the Sportpalast in Berlin, Germany.

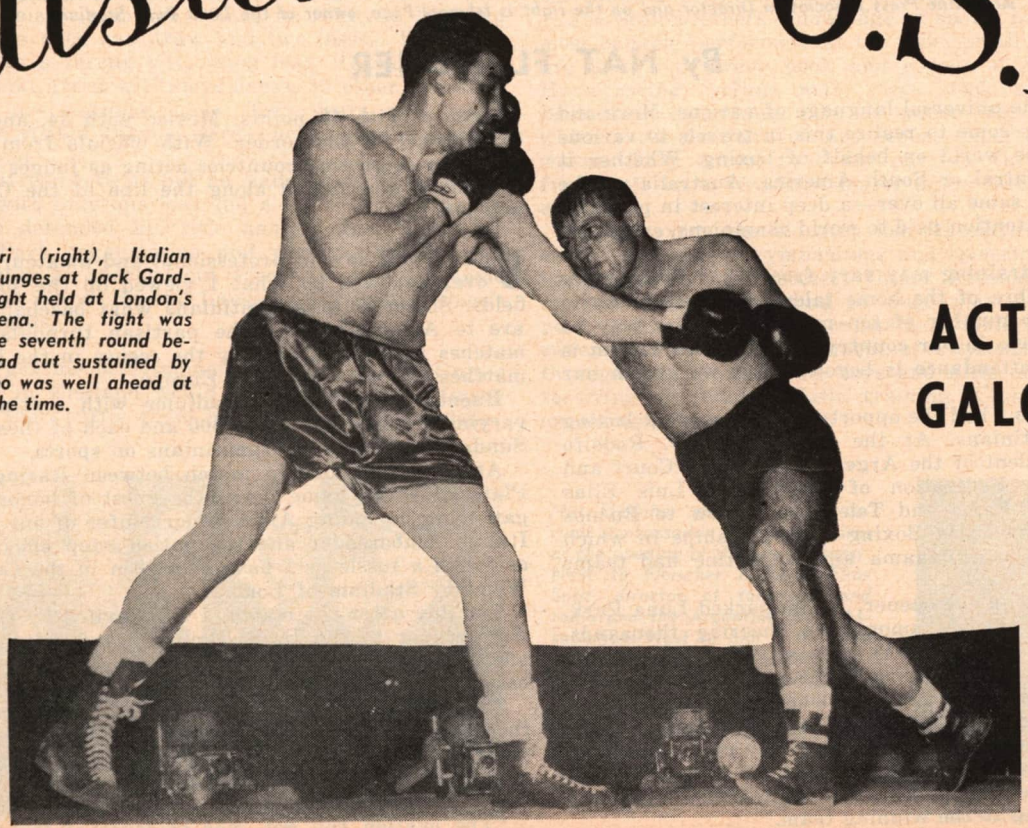


French Featherweight Champion Ray Grassi is lifted by his manager, Henri Barba, after collapsing in a Marseilles ring following his being stopped by Mohamed Chickaoui. Grassi later died.



Outside the U.S.A.

Uber Bacilieri (right), Italian heavyweight, lunges at Jack Gardner in their fight held at London's Harringay Arena. The fight was stopped in the seventh round because of a bad cut sustained by the Italian who was well ahead at the time.



ACTION GALORE!

BOXING . . . GOOD WILL AMBASSADOR

Above—Upper Right—Nat Fleischer receiving from President Peron the Argentine Olympic Medal in recognition of The Ring Editor's work on behalf of world boxing. The Ring Editor interviewing President Juan Peron in the Argentine Executive Mansion. Standing, are President Peron's nephew and Dr. Valenzuela, President of the Supreme Court and of the Argentine Sports Federation. Next to Fleischer is Alberto Sojit, son of the Argentine Press Association Director and on the right is Ishmael Pace, owner of the Luna Park Stadium.

By NAT FLEISCHER

BOXING is the universal language of nations. More and more I have come to realize this in travels to various parts of the world on behalf of boxing. Whether it be in Europe, Central or South America, Australia or the Far East, it's the same all over—a deep interest in pugilism with particular attention paid to world champions, especially Americans.

The system of training may vary from what we consider orthodox, the calibre of the home talent may not be up to our standard; the number of top ranking fighters may be below what we have in our country. But the enthusiasm is greater and the attendance is beyond what we get in our ordinary shows.

A few weeks ago I had the opportunity to see what boxing means to Argentinians. At the request of Dr. Rodolfo Valenzuela, President of the Argentine Supreme Court and Chairman of the Federation of Sports and Luis Elias Sojit, Director of Radio and Television, I flew to Buenos Aires to attend the Latin Boxing Championships in which France, Mexico, Cuba, Panama and Argentine had teams entered.

What I saw was an eye opener. A jam-packed Luna Park, with government officials among the cheering thousands, I watched the lads of the five nations fighting with the same enthusiasm the majority of them displayed in the recent Olympic Games in Helsinki, where most of the competitors in the Argentine meet were seen in action.

The Argentinians made a run-away race of it, amassing a total of 71 points, to 44 for Panama, for the President Peron Cup, a silver trophy two feet high, which I had the honor of presenting to the winning team.

France, with 43 points, Mexico with 34, and Cuba with 31, finished in that order. With officials from France and the other competing countries acting as judges and referees, the affair was staged along the line of the Olympic competition.

BUT what I saw in professional and amateur boxing, was overshadowed by what I viewed on the soccer football fields. Soccer is to Argentinians what baseball and boxing are to Americans, and the partisan turnouts at the cup matches is equalled only by the scenes in the international matches annually staged in Europe.

Buenos Aires has 18 stadiums with seating capacities varying from 20,000 to 110,000 and each of these is filled on Sundays so keen are Argentinians on sports.

At the championship match between Racing and River Plate, at which game I was the guest of honor, a capacity gathering, including Ambassador Nufer of our country, the Italian Ambassador and the nation's top officials, watched as tough a tussle as I have ever seen in the Cup Finals at Wembley Stadium of London.

The day after the match, I was invited by the American Ambassador to the U. S. Embassy and felt proud of my affiliation with boxing when Ambassador Nufer shook my hand and said:

"As American Ambassador I want to congratulate you on the wonderful reception you received at the football game yesterday. I too, was a guest, but while I sat in the grand stand, you as a representative of boxing, had the place of honor on the field.

"The ovation you got, was evidence of the fine job you

have done here as a good-will sports ambassador from our country. South American people like those in all Latin-American countries, are sports loving people. Sports is a universal language and there is no better way to bring about a closer relationship and friendship between our country and those than through sports. You've done a good job here and I'm glad that you made the trip and I hope we'll see you here soon again."

Those words, coming from our Ambassador, made me feel that more international sports events, especially in amateur and pro boxing, would be of great help in bringing about a better understanding between South American countries and our Nation. It is the one thing all understand and in which all are deeply interested.

I also was greeted by the newly appointed Hebrew Ambassador from Tel Aviv and the Italian Ambassador who was present with me in President Peron's Palace.

LUNA PARK, a huge structure like Madison Square Garden, is the scene of the nation's leading indoor sports activities. Twice a week, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, Ishmael Pace, the Mike Jacobs of Argentine, stages boxing shows with professionals and twice a month, amateur boxing. Wednesday nights are given over to minor contests while the majpor talent participates on the week end.

Though Argentine has about 400 pros, only a handful are capable of extending what we term in the States good club fighters.

Of these the best is Eduardo Lausse, a middleweight who has been seen three times in the States, and Cacusea Bruno, a featherweight, who also has fought in our country.

Lause tops the field. Bruno has taken too much punches in his many victories to enable him to make the grade, against top competition.

Lausse, because of his terrific punching power, has what it takes. He's the Argentinian who twice knocked out Jimmy Beau, once in two and the next time they met, in the opening round. In our country he stopped Johnny Darby in five; Gus Mell in the first and Tommy Smith in six rounds.

In his latest battle in Chile, he dropped Stanislaus Loayza twice in the opening session then halted him in the third. Loayza is the son of the famous Chilean lightweight champion who fought in the States in the days of Billy Petrolle.

The current fistic hero in Argentine is Alfredo Prada, who is the lightweight king. And as a king, this veteran is treated. On his trip to the States in 1951, he lost two of his five fights with one draw and two losses. Wherever he goes, he finds a throng welcoming him. He and Lausse, who is a knockout artist who lacks finesse in other branches of the sport, are national idols. Two years ago, when Sandy Saddler visited Buenos Aires, he stopped Prada in the fourth round.

Last year Alfredo retired, but he made an excellent comeback in 1953 with only one loss and a draw in nine fights. In August he defended his title against Jose Goza for Pace's Luna Park organization and won the verdict and three weeks later he knocked out Jose Gatica in the same club in the sixth round. He and Lausse are Promoter Pace's best drawing cards.

THOUGH Argentine professionals are what in the United States and in England would be regarded as ordinary club fighters, they battle their heads off for the decision.

A scene at the huge football stadium where The Ring Editor pressed the electric button that raised the Argentine and American flags while 85,000 persons cheered.

They give all they have in an effort to win and that is what enables Promoter Pace to pack his arena with almost every show. The crowd knows it will get a run for its money and that's what counts most.

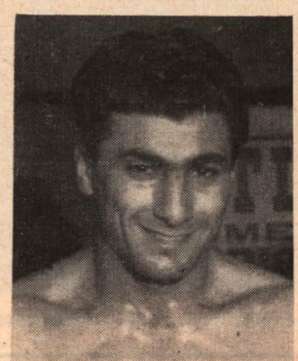
The better group of pros in addition to those already named, consists of Nestor Savino, feather; Jose Maria Gatica and Jose Gozza, lightweight; Oscar Pita and Oscar Aceffe, welters; Rafael Merentino and Mario Diaz, middleweights; Angel Cassano, light heavy and Reinaldo Ansaloni and Antonio Pacenza, heavyweights. They are not top performers but they satisfy because they are willing, energetic, fighting men, who fill the bill for Argentinians.

The partisan rooters go daffy in trying to root their man home. As in Cuba and other Latin American countries, there is little let-up in the cheering from the time the first gong clangs until the finish. And during the proceedings, the voice of Manuel Sojit, brother of Luis, the Director of Radio Belgrano, the national radio outlet, can be heard above the din as he rattles off, in true Sam Taub style, the blows for the thousands of radio listeners.

The Sojit brothers' knowledge of sports is deep. They are most capable performers at the mike in all branches. They are known in every nook and corner of South America. Horse racing, cycling, motor races, stock car races, boxing, basketball, swimming, polo or soccer—there isn't a sport which these brothers cannot report expertly over the air waves. They travel to every part of the continent and frequently have broadcast major fights in Spanish to their country.

Almost every big industry has its playgrounds, outdoor arenas and indoor gymnasiums and sponsors amateur boxing, basketball and soccer. Under President Peron's administration, the building of huge play fields, swimming pools and recreation centers has been undertaken under the supervision of the Department of Physical Education and through this medium, the boys and girls of Argentine are receiving excellent athletic training. Club competition is exceedingly keen.

Nat Fleischer greeted by the Israeli Ambassador in Buenos Aires at the opening of the new Embassy. Next to Fleischer is Louis Elias Sojit, director of television and radio and the Argentine Press Association. Next to him is the Ambassador's wife and the Ambassador is on the extreme right.



Eduardo Lausse, Argentine's best fighter. He is a middleweight who has a good sock. He has been seen in the United States.

By JOHNNY SALAK

IT has become an increasingly popular and lucrative business to flash back the scenes of yesteryear through the medium of television. Nostalgia invades the living room as the oldtimers relive the events of their youth (or even a few years back) while the kids sit bug-eyed watching the world that is now only a dead issue, gathering dust in archives. Too often it is only Class B motion pictures (which would have made everyone happier had they remained buried) but enough has been preserved of everyday life and important historic events of the last thirty or forty years through newsreels to make for many interesting programs. Sports have been most fortunate for many of the most thrilling and record-breaking moments have been preserved on film.

With this to work with, Screen Gems, Incorporated, has fashioned a series of twenty-six programs, "The Big Playback," which is narrated by Bill Stern, one of America's outstanding sportscasters, bringing back into clear view memorable events from the world of sports. It emerges as the most interesting documentary on athletes and their doings that this observer has ever seen.

In this encyclopedia of sports on film more than forty-five different athletic diversions are covered, some bizarre and strange but nonetheless exciting. Screen Gems has placed considerable emphasis on boxing in the program content of the TV series because of the tremendous interest in that sport according to the letters they have received from viewers.

Some of the great moments in sports that are relived through this series are Jesse Owens' winning of three Olympic championships, Citation's race that made him a million-dollar winner, Ben Hogan's return to golf after his automobile accident to win the U. S. National Open (the most stirring comeback in sports history), John Cobb's fatal speedboat run when he was clocked at 240 miles an hour before the boat exploded, Bobby Thomson hitting the home run that won the pennant for the Giants in 1951, Dick Button winning the figure skating championship for the fourth time, Eddie Arcaro setting a track record riding Hill Gail in 1952 and winning his fifth Kentucky Derby, Carl Hubbell striking out six of the greatest batters of his day in the 1934 All-Star Game.

Others are Bobby Jones' winning of the National Amateur and Open golf tourneys to complete his Grand Slam (the only one ever to do it), the great international match race of the century between Zev and Papyrus, Helen Jacobs winning the 1933 tennis championship by default as Helen Wills Moody called a halt to the match, Andrea Mead Lawrence gaining two gold medals in the 1952 Winter Olympics, Babe Ruth's smashing home runs in the 1928 World Series between the Yankees and Cardinals (Ruth hit .625 in the setto), the last home run hit by Joe DiMaggio before his retirement (in the 1951 World Series), the Touchdown Twins (Blanchard and Davis) as they ran roughshod over all comers during the 1945 season, Glenn Cunningham in many of his record breaking track events, and—of course—the Golden Twenties with greats such as Jack Dempsey and Gene Tunney, Man O'War, Red Grange, and Knute Rockne and his victorious Notre Dame teams.

These are just a few of the countless glorious moments in sports history that are relived in this thrilling series, a series that no fan would want to miss.

• • •

Some of the odd and unusual sports which are filmed are the establishing of a world's long distance record run in water skiing, the most fantastic wrestling match ever recorded on film, the screwball basketball played by the amazing world-famous Harlem Globetrotters, the lumberjacks annual log

WEEKLY U. S. TV BOXING SCHEDULE

CLUB	CITY	STATION	ANNOUNCER
MONDAY			
EASTERN PARKWAY ARENA	BROOKLYN, N. Y.	DUMONT NETWORK	CHRIS SCHENKEL
SOUTH GATE ARENA	LOS ANGELES, CALIF.	KHJ-TV	MARK SCOTT
MOTOR CITY ARENA	DETROIT, MICH.	WXYZ-TV	FRED WOLF
TUESDAY			
OLYMPIC AUDITORIUM	LOS ANGELES, CALIF.	KTLA	REID KILPATRICK and DICK GARTON
WEDNESDAY			
THE WEDNESDAY NIGHT FIGHTS	(EMANATING FROM VARIOUS CITIES)	CBS-TV NETWORK	RUSS HODGES and JACK DREES
THURSDAY			
MEADOWBROOK BOWL OR LAUREL GARDEN	NEWARK, N. J.	WATV	FRED SAYLES
FRIDAY			
BOXING FROM MADISON SQUARE GARDEN OR ST. NICHOLAS ARENA	NEW YORK, N. Y.	*NBC-TV NETWORK	JIMMY POWERS
SATURDAY			
THE SATURDAY NIGHT FIGHTS	(EMANATING FROM VARIOUS CITIES)	ABC-TV NETWORK	JACK GREGSON
LEGION STADIUM	HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.	KECA-TV	HANK WEAVER

*Also heard over the ABC radio network, Don Dunphy and Win Elliott, announcers.

race down a treacherous rapid on slippery logs in Finland, Tipperary defending its crown in that rough-and-tumble Irish game—hurling, daredevil motorcyclists racing up a ski jump, the world meet at Madrid (Spain) for the gliding championship, the world's leading barrel jumpers trying for new records, pre-World War I automobiles competing for racing honors in California, ice boats racing over frozen Lake St. Clair, a horse race on snow in Arose (Switzerland), Joe Ezar (world's greatest trick shot golf artist) making a golf ball do everything but talk, a mixed relay race (runners, cyclists and boatmen all competing) behind the Iron Curtain, acrobats defying death on a high wire across a jagged valley in the Swiss Alps, and ski jumping on water.

The Big Playback is being shown currently on local television stations in the United States from coast to coast. The format of the quarter-hour TV program on film, produced by Screen Gems, the television subsidiary of Columbia Pictures Corporation, has Bill Stern, the commentator, reading letters from fans who request a certain sport or historic athletic event that they would like to see, and the filming of those requests. Guest stars also appear and usually some outstanding moment from their athletic life is brought to the viewer. Fans all over the country, after viewing this popular program that is being seen over more than eighty-two stations, have been writing to Screen Gems, hoping to relive some outstanding moment.

Some of the highlights of boxing that are screened on The Big Playback are Johnny Bratton fighting five rounds with a broken jaw, the Jake LaMotta-Laurent Dauthuille middleweight title bout which was one of the most dramatic fights in ring history, Jersey Joe Walcott's fight with Hein Ten Hoff in Mannheim (Germany) in the rain, Ray Robinson (retiring as undefeated middleweight champ) trading in his boxing boots for a pair of dancing shoes, a fight in which both men were counted out and which was declared a no decision bout, Joey Maxim knocking out Freddie Mills in England to win the world light heavyweight title, a look at the amateurs who are the champs of tomorrow battling for Golden Gloves crowns, and the Jake LaMotta-Tiberio Mitri middleweight title contest.

Former world boxing champs who have appeared as guest stars on The Big Playback are Gene Tunney and Joe Louis, who both held the heavyweight crown; Rocky Graziano, once known as the middleweight king but now a successful television thespian; and Sugar Ray Robinson, one time holder of the welterweight and middleweight titles who fell just short in his bid for a third, the light heavyweight.

Other sports seen on this series include swimming, bobsled racing, channel swimming, gymnastics, diving, weight lifting, skeet shooting, mountain climbing, ice hockey, trotting, rodeo, yacht racing, bicycling, the roller derby, billiards and judo.

That's a brilliant list of sports, though not complete. I'm sure the producers will eventually get around to some of my favorities, among them being birling (no jokes, Milton!), bocce (hey, gumbari), checkers (your move), chess (my move), cock and bull fighting, fox hunting (tally ho, who's got the deck of cards?), purring (that's shin kicking, no kitten), spelunking (here's where I cave in), walking on hands (got a match, bud?), and, not to forget, tiddly-winks (I haven't winked at a tiddly in ages).

WE ran across one of Damon Runyon's pieces in the New York Journal-American, circa 1944, and thought you might like to be reminded of his comments on TV of that era.

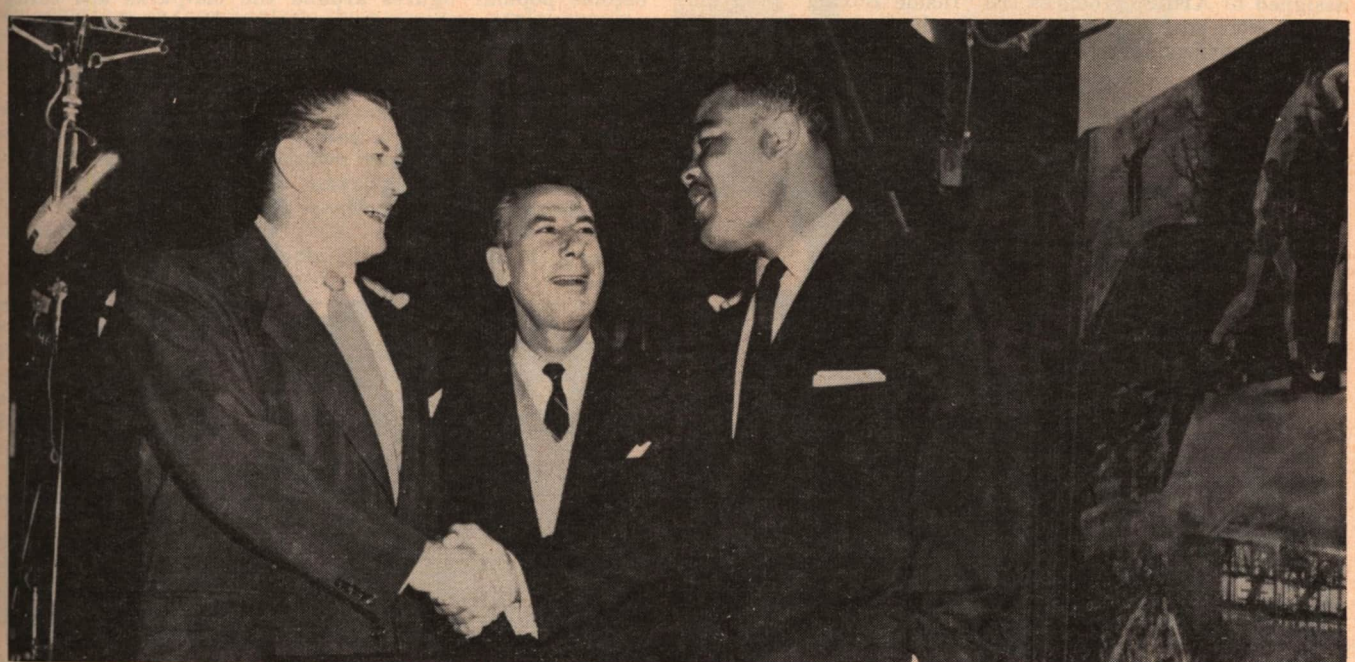
It seems, according to his column, The Brighter Side, Damon had removed himself to the basement of the St. Nicholas Arena on one occasion to watch the fights for a change. In discussing "the world to come" Runyon spoke about "televisioning the fights, a regular procedure nowadays" (Brother Damon, you ain't seen nuthin'). Arthur Bugs Baer was with him and he said that at Editor Bill Curley's home in Connecticut he had been seeing televisionic transmissions (let's focus that picture) of the fights every week and that they came across rather wobbly (or did he mean Curley?).

Promoter Mike Jacobs, who had more than a passing interest in TV, protested that there must be something wrong with Curley's (or was it wobbly's) set since he got good reception and lived twice the distance (all the way out at Rumson, N. J.), some 62 miles away as the buzzard flies. And the buzzard COULD fly!

"'Maybe the hurricane in Connecticut busted something at Curley's,'" hazarded buzzarded Bugs.

Runyon admitted that he didn't go to St. Nick's just to see television. "As a matter of fact, they sprang that one on us unexpectedly," wrote Damon. He went out to see the debut of one of Jimmy Johnston's South American heavyweight importations, Fernando Minichelli, who took a beating and gladly accepted a draw. Runyon liked Fernando, though, for he remembered another heavyweight debut when a newcomer got belted around and everybody said this new guy, Jack Dempsey, was a bum.

It is easy to second guess the good and late Damon at this time and say that he should have paid more attention to televisionic transmissions (he's got me doing it now) than to Fernando (The Mighty) Minichelli, who turned out to be less than another Wild Bull and more of Jimmy Johnston's mild bull. But we won't.



Bill Stern (center) greets Gene Tunney (left) and Joe Louis as they meet in the studio where The Big Playback, a Screen Gems Production was being filmed. Tunney and Louis both appeared as guests stars in this TV series.

..With Our SERVICEMEN

IF you were to eavesdrop on the conversation of servicemen at Adak in the Aleutian Islands, with servicemen on Guam in the Pacific or with a few of the boys in Vienna, you'd find the fight talk being bandied about was up to date—as up to date as if it were in the lobby of Madison Square Garden on fight night. This is possible because of the Armed Forces Radio Service, which transmits by shortwave to our men and women of the Armed Forces throughout the world.

Established in 1942, the Armed Forces Radio Service carries News, Sports and Special Events to members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard stationed overseas around the globe.

With studios in New York and Los Angeles, AFRS presents the complete story of Stateside Sports. While covering all seasonal sports such as baseball, football, basketball and track, AFRS Sports also brings a year-round report on boxing. Navy Chief Journalist Al Spanjer, USN, a veteran of fourteen years service, heads the AFRS New York Sports Department, which covers the sports scene in the Eastern United States. From New York, Chief Spanjer has aired exclusive blow-by-blow descriptions of the Marciano-LaStarza, Marciano-Matthews, Maxim-Robinson, Robinson-Turpin and Turpin-Olson fights.

In addition to these bouts, AFRS shortwaves the outstanding Wednesday and Friday night fights to the far corners of the world through the cooperation of the International Boxing Club, the sponsors, agencies and networks. In fact, many of the bouts which are available on TV only, are re-created for radio broadcast overseas.

TO keep fans informed on boxing, between major bouts, AFRS presents a regular weekly program titled "Inside Boxing." The guest list of this fifteen minute feature reads like a "Who's Who in Boxing." JOSN Gordon Bridge, who has been in broadcasting for eight years prior to being assigned to AFRS, produces the "Inside Boxing" program. Those who have been heard recently include Robert K. Christenberry, chairman of the New York State Athletic Commission; James J. Norris, president of the International Boxing Club; Jack Solomons, outstanding British promoter; Rocky Marciano, heavyweight champion; Kid Gavilan, welter-weight champion; Bobo Olson, middleweight champion; Jimmy Carter, lightweight champion, and Joe Louis, the former heavyweight king.

Several outstanding boxing authorities make regular appearances on "Inside Boxing," among them being Nat Fleischer, Editor and Publisher of The Ring Magazine, who gives his monthly ratings, brings the boys up to date on the latest happenings and gives them the inside stories on many of the fights.

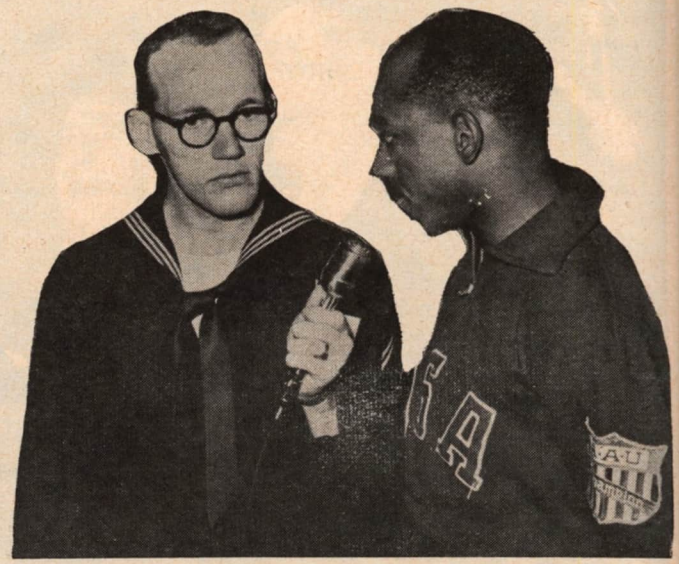
With all major boxing bouts and interviews with the top personalities in the fistic world, Armed Forces Radio Service brings to the servicemen overseas a coverage of sports that is without parallel.

A Department of Defense activity, AFRS New York and Los Angeles is a vital link in bringing "home" a little closer to the men and women of our Armed Forces throughout the world. And Navy Chief Al Spanjer and Gordon Bridge are but two servicemen on the sports beat in this world-wide radio network so important to the morale of United States servicemen.

The Armed Forces Radio Service, which is staffed by personnel of the Army, Navy and Air Force, functions under the direction of Major General Harlan Harkness, of the Office of Information and Education.

A familiar sight at all the major sporting events now are Spanjer and Bridge. They have become the eyes and ears of our servicemen overseas who are sporting fans. Whether you are in the armed forces in Korea, Germany or Alaska—whether your favorite sport in boxing, baseball, football, ice hockey or what-have-you you won't miss out on the latest happenings thanks of Al Spanjer and Gordon Bridge and the Armed Forces Radio Service. They have become popular figures around the ballparks and boxing arenas and even more popular with the hundreds of thousands of men overseas.

Navy Chief Journalist Al Spanjer (left), head of the Armed Forces Radio Service New York Sports Department, interviews baseball's outstanding star, Ted Williams, a veteran of two wars.

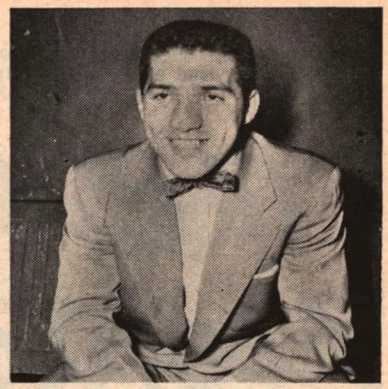


Gordon Bridge, who produces the "Inside Boxing" program for the armed forces, gets an exclusive from Harrison Dillard, American Track star.

Ring Prospects Make Good

Lew Eskin

• • •



Jed Black, Michigan State collegian, ranked as an outstanding prospect in "The Ring" in September, made good with a vengeance.

EACH month, as part of the monthly rating of boxers, The Ring makes a choice of one lad in each division who is named as "The Prospect of the Month". The staff looks into the crystal ball and tries to pick out lads who in its opinion, though only preliminary fighters, or often mere novices, have enough on the ball to indicate that they will develop into headliners.

It's no easy task since the selections are made on a world-wide basis and frequently not enough is known in America of the ability of young talent hence we must depend on the reports of Ring Correspondents and rely on their good judgment. How good has this judgment and that of our staff been during the past year? Well, we'll let our readers judge for themselves.

Ninety-six lads were named from January through the January issue and of that number, four came through within a few months to gain a place among the elite, thirteen moved from the novice or Class C division as listed in our annual rating of boxers, to a Class A ranking and thirty-eight of the raw novices have found their way in eleven months to a place among the Class B rated pugilists.

"The Ring" is proud of the above record. It proves what we so often have tried to impress on those who have criticised our ratings that our choices are based on a close analysis of a fighter's ability, judged on the calibre of the opposition he faces and the results achieved. There is no guess work, as is the case with all other world rankings.

Through the years since this feature was started, our ratings have proved more than eighty percent accurate and to-day they stand out as the official guide for boxing commissions, promoters and managers the world over. Those who depend on these ratings know that we have no ax to grind; show no favoritism; show no partiality or discrimination. The deserving get what they merit and that's what makes our rankings and our prospects stand out.

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When one considers that the boys named as monthly prospects are more often than not merely beginners, some with only three or four fights to their credit as professionals, it's a feather in the cap of "The Ring" to find in less than one year four such choices making the grade.

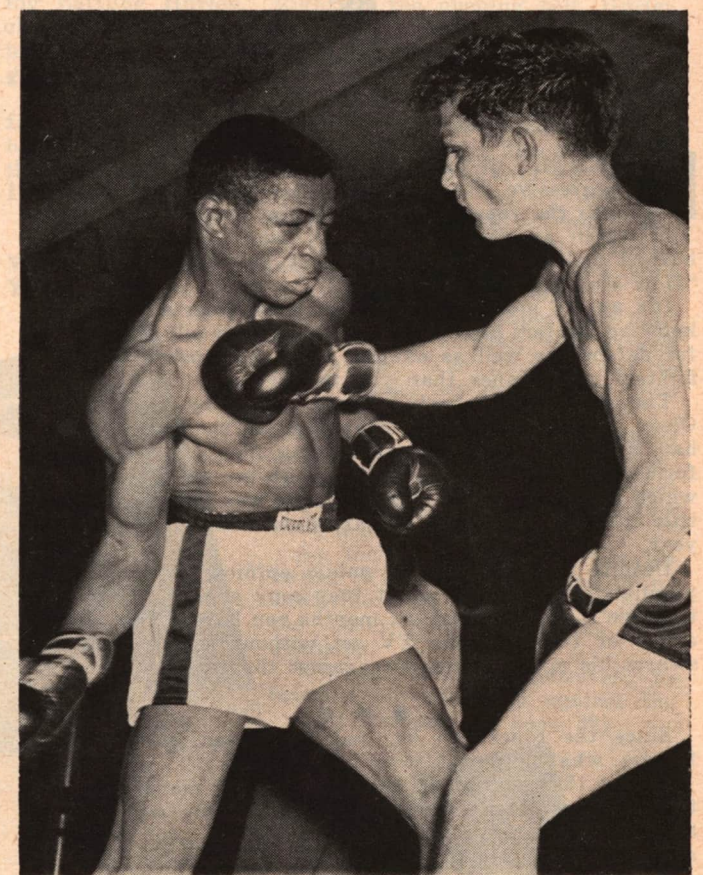
Many of "The Ring's" discoveries have been listed in our rankings and among our prospects many months before they are oven given a tumble by boxing scribes or commissions. Often we read that an unknown won one of the biggest upsts of the year, yet this "unknown" has been a rated fighter in our publication for months before that upset was recorded!

There's Pat Ford, for example. He was an excellent amateur and as soon as he turned pro, his first fight was a main event twelve rounder. Jersey Jones spotted him when he was a simon pure, boomed him as an excellent prospect after his first profight and to-day, in less than twelve months, Pat not only has won the Australian lightweight championship but is also the British Empire king. The Ring gave him his first recognition as an international pugilist.

We tabbed him in our June issue as a good world lightweight prospect. Did he come through for us? You said it.

Billy Peacock of Los Angeles, Calif., former amateur and A.A.U. champion who now holds the American bantam crown, is another lad who shot up from nowhere to international ranking. Billy stepped in as a last minute substitute against Oscar Torres and scored a sensational victory.

Following this triumph, he advanced to a meeting with Henry (Pappy) Gault for the American title at the "House of Upsets", Brooklyn's Eastern Parkway Rink, and in the first bantamweight title bout fought in New York in fifteen years, and the first ever televised in America, he defeated Gault and captured the crown. Since then he has defended it by stopping Johnny Ortega.



Billy Peacock of Los Angeles (left), and Henry 'Pappy' Gault of Spartenburg, S. C., in the first U. S. bantamweight title bout staged in many years. Peacock was tabbed in our June "Prospects" box and reached the top shortly thereafter.

Peacock was tabbed by The Ring in the March issue as a youngster to watch. Just another lad to whom attention was first brought by this publication through our prospects box.

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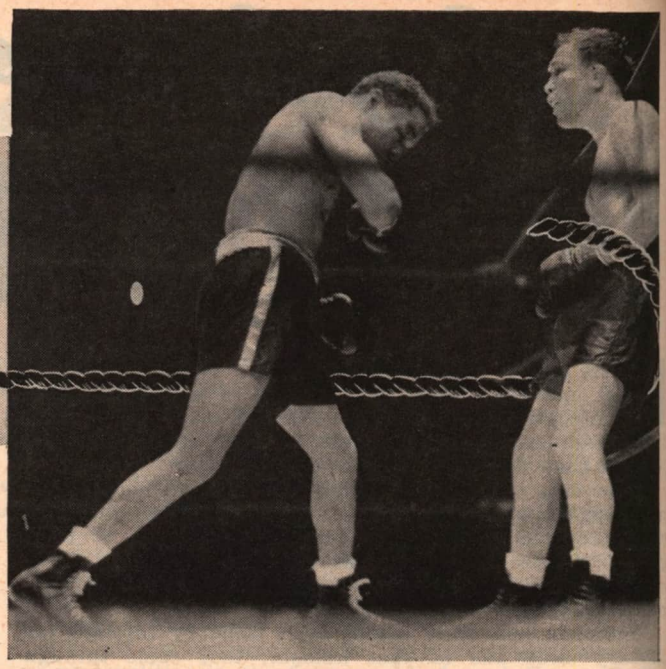
Three of the four boys who made the big leap from novice class to the ranking division, are little men. In fact, most of the fighters who have advanced from the raw stage into main event boxers or Class A talent, have come from the lighter divisions where there are as many active fighters. Thus progress is faster than in the higher classes.

(*Continued on page* 40)

Held in a corner by Henry Armstrong, Lew Ambers uses ropes to circle out of range of the vicious attack by moving too and fro in a circular movement.



Rope Fighters

By
LESTER BROMBERG

RECENTLY, it has been coming back strong . . . . an aggressive, big-muscled fighter forcing an opponent into the ropes and making him look pathetic there. You watch as much as you can take. Then, you're so burned up by the one-sidedness of it, you ask yourself: "How stupid can that guy get?"

It's an old story, though. For more than a few years, knowing fighters have made the ropes their ally. That goes for defense as well as offense. But the stock of knowing fighters ran thinner than you thought.

The current comeback is spearheaded by Carl (Bobo) Olson, new middleweight champion of the world. Bobo had Britain's former champ looking like a novice as the former assailed him with no place to go, except the floor, which he visited twice. The occasion was Olson's 15-round title conquest in Madison Square Garden on October 23 last year.

Despite the general low public opinion of present-day pugilists, you have to admit they copy a good thing when they see it. In the past six months you hardly visit a fight arena or tune in your TV set without seeing somebody swarm his opposite number against the ropes.

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Since the ropes can be, and have been, such decisive factors, what is their history and origin?

In the 18th century, the early dawn of modern boxing, the ring was often unenclosed. The fighting was done in a field or a courtyard, with the spectators following the action as it moved.

Nobility and landed gentry sponsored the matches but these generally were outnumbered by the so-called lower classes. In England, where boxing flourished best, the bully boys from the farms and forests were always there.

It can be theorized that the confined ring was created, not so much to keep the fighters in but as to keep the roughnecks from interfering with the fight.

Remember, they were fans who had their favorites and they never were inhibited by any such latter-day notions as sportsmanship. If things went bad for their boy, they considered it their right to bust up the party.

Hence, in some areas, there were double rings: the "inner" and the "outer." The first was the fighting space, the second a neutral zone. The second was patrolled by men equipped with whips to beat off intruders when these tried to rush the inner ring.

To this day the British Board of Boxing Control refers to its ringside inspectors as "Whips."

There also is evidence the British didn't always use ropes to enclose the ring.

Jack Broughton's Rules, a pugilistic primer introduced in London on August 10, 1743, had this reference:

RULE 1: ". . . or being parted from the rails."

Patently, the "rails" were about two feet. There is a picture of the same from the Daniel Mendoza-Richard Humphreys match, Jan. 9, 1788, in Paul Magriel's biography of Mendoza.

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There was no safety for the fighters in this fence arrangement, because it was set up at the very edge of the ring platform. Any overbalancing at the brink could plunge either, or both, to the floor.

The London Prize Ring Rules, which supplanted Broughton's in 1834, contained the first mention of ropes, as follows:

Rule 1: . . . . "(the ring) shall be four-and-twenty feet square, formed of eight stakes and ropes, the latter entending in double lines."

Rule 20: ". . . . The referees and umpires shall take up their positions outside the ropes."

Rule 28: ". . . . hugging on the ropes shall be deemed foul. A man held by the neck or upon or against the ropes shall be considered down and interference in that position shall be considered foul. If a man makes use of the ropes to aid him in squeezing his adversary, he shall be deemed the loser."

• • •

The double lines persisted until the early 20th century when, for greater safety, the present triple strands were introduced.

There must have been plenty of wrestling and tugging at the ropes to prompt such specific prohibitions as called for by the London Prize Ring regulations.

But time moved along and so did the people's appetite for cleaner stand-up fighting. This resulted, in 1892, in the adoption of the Queensberry Rules, which had been drawn up 30 years earlier.

These completely barred wrestling and hugging and, incidentally, included only one reference to ropes:

Rule 5: "A man hanging on the ropes in a helpless state, with his toes off the ground, shall be considered down."

Naturally, the tactics employed by Olson, and his imitators, could be continued indefinitely in any round for the simple reason the opponent invariably didn't have his toes off the ground.

As can be seen, any fighter so being attacked has the prerogative of getting free merely by falling back onto the ropes and taking what amounts to a knockdown.

Turpin's lack of perspicacity on that point is what got him knocked about by Ray Robinson in their New York fight.

If you recall, Sugar Ray was bombing him at the ropes in the tenth with the round practically finished. But Randy

didn't reach for the relief available. He rolled, still on his feet, though showing signs of wear. Ruby Goldstein, the referee, believing him in danger of being hurt, stopped it.

At that moment, only eight seconds remained in the round. One knockdown would have been more than enough to get Turpin out for the eleventh.

Randy certainly learned nothing from that experience, as evidenced by his repetition of the same error against Olson. Probably only the difference between Robinson's punching and Bobo's permitted him to go the distance.

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As pointed out recently by Johnny Attell, veteran manager and matchmaker, there should be no excuse for a professional letting himself be kept on the ropes any length of time.

"He has weapons with which to get himself out of there," Attell was saying.

What Attell meant was mainly the knack of "spinning." In this the backed-up fighter used a gloved hand, left or right, to turn off the rushing opponent, the while he jumps out.

Johnny mentioned another trick.

"The fellow against the ropes just pushes back and, at the same time, he leans down on the other fellow's shoulders with his own wrists and elbows. The guy attacking can't do a thing, he's in such bad position. So what does he do? He pulls away."

Attell conceded that in many cases the besieged battler is satisfied to stay on the ropes.

"I think they do it because it isn't as tiring as moving around the ring. Besides, it tires the other fighter, since he's doing all the work."

Johnny remembered an experience with his old protege, the late Bummy Davis, who, in a Garden fight, was a rope-side prisoner of Henry Armstrong's for ten rounds.

"I asked him afterwards, 'What were you trying to do?' He wouldn't answer. He just looked at me, as if to say, 'a foolish question deserves a foolish answer.'"

Yet this writer vividly recalls an opponent of Armstrong's, Lou Ambers, to whom that backed-to-the-ropes situation was an opportunity to use a favorite punch.

As you undoubtedly remember, Armstrong took Ambers' lightweight championship in their first fight and Ambers won it back in their second.

Lou had a dilly of a short uppercut in either hand, which he hadn't used in the first fight because he'd fought at long range. In the second he played spider to the fly. By the fifth or sixth round, Armstrong was spitting blood. By the tenth, Henry's inner mouth was a mess of slashed flesh.

● ● ●

The other night Charley Rose, the lively old globe-trotter, was telling about Leach Cross and that lightweight's fondness for playing possum against the ropes.

"I was at the Roman A. C. one night, when he was fighting Battling Hurley. Right at the opening bell, Hurley charged at him and pinned him up against the ropes. Leach had his gloves in front of his face. We thought he was getting killed.

"A minute or so passed and I figured he'd fall on his face if Hurley pulled away. Well, Hurley finally stepped back. And, with that Leach was on him like a cat. He threw everything in the book at Hurley, who was all in. Leach knocked him out in the first."

Rose himself has a sad personal memento of ring ropes. In 1915 Charley was seconding his old pal, Freddie Welsh, lightweight champion, in a no-decision bout with Young Shugrue in old Madison Square Garden.

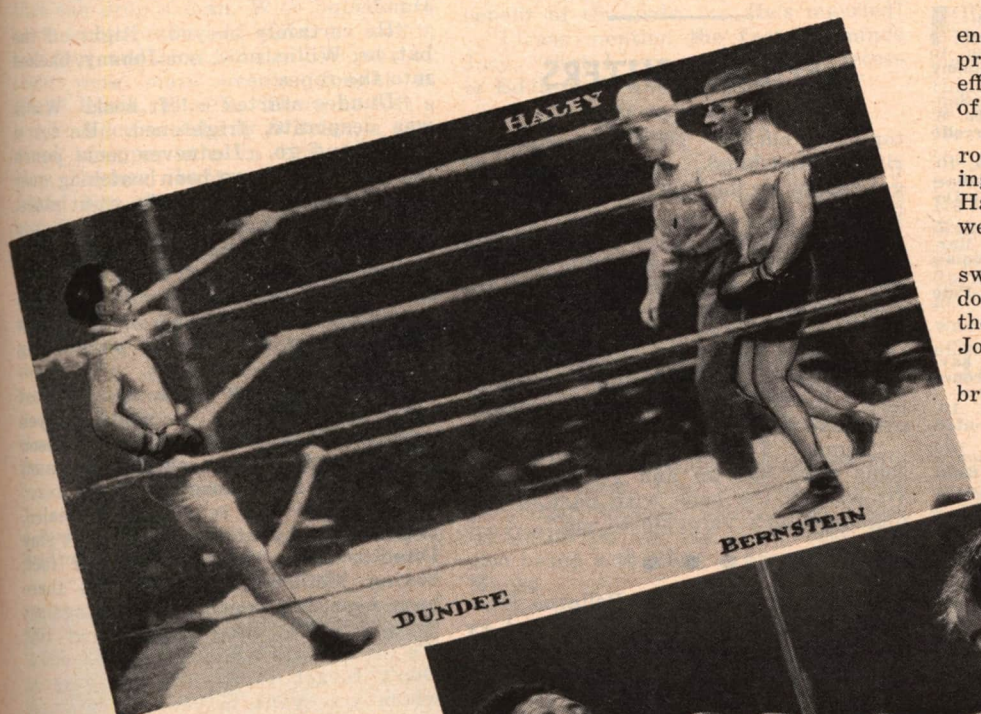
In those days the ropes were fastened by open buckles, with a hook protruding. The purpose was to effect a quick set-up and take-down of the ring.

Between the third and fourth rounds, Rose was on the apron, leaning over the top rope. Manager Harry Pollak and Ned Johnston were inside the ropes.

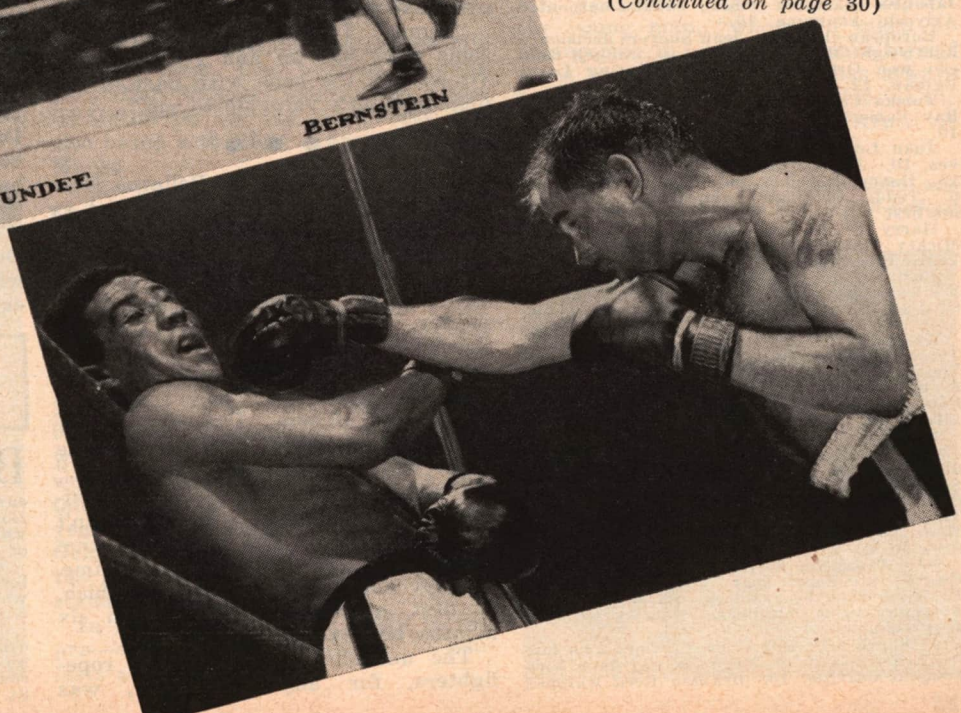
As the fourth opened, Charley swung to his right, intending to get down the steps that way and leave the other side to Pollak and Johnston.

Without thinking, however, he brushed his left hand against the

(*Continued on page* 30)



The master of rope trickery was Johnny Dundee. Dundee used the ropes as a "jumping board" for his attacks on his opponent. He would use the ropes as a springboard.



Here we see Carl Bobo Olson taking advantage of the situation that was presented to him when Randy Turpin tried to use the rope trick to avoid being tagged. Bobo caught his man every time Randy landed against the ropes.

RATINGS

(*Continued from page* 15)

8. Johnny Gentile beat Chico Corsey, 7. Dick Kerber whipped Nate Huskey, 8. Manuel Roche drew with Alfonso Flores, 10. Flores beat Canelo Kid, 10.

Gus Monteverde drew with Jimmy Mattos, 6. Lloyd Hudson drew with Claude Richard, 6. Ike Jenkins stopped Jay Anderson, 4.

Barry Allison beat Joe Lissy, 6. Oscar Acefe beat Luis Salinas, 10. Jimmy Champagne decisioned Tommy Dixon, 8. Oscar Pitta defeated Oscar Flores, 10.

Gene Johns drew with Calvin Davis, 6. Charley Drexler drew with Don Cheatum, 6. Robert Guivarch whipped Gilbert Ussin, 10. Billy Pinkus kayoed Jackie Richards, 3.

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Paddy DeMarco outpointed Ralph Dupas, 10. Joe Brown halted Cliff Dyes, 9.

Juan Leanos beat Conrado Castanon, 10. Alfredo Prada kayoed Francisco Espelucin, 12.

Glen Flanagan beat Baby Joe Diaz, 10. Freddy Herman halted Don Rogers, 2. Dennis Pat Brady whipped Johnny DiGilio, 8.

Cisco Andrade whipped Bobby Woods, 10. Ludwig Lightburn kayoed El Conscripto, 7, and Joe Fisher, 6. Steve Takano won the Hawaiian lightweight title by defeating Abel Donnell, 10.

George Monroe defeated Fred Monforte, 10. Bobby Bickle drew with Santiago Esteban, 10. Esteban then beat Archie Whitewater, 10, while Bickle kayoed Eddie Brant, 6.

Andy Escobar kayoed Lavert Smith, 5. Cesar Saavedra kayoed Memo Valero, 6. Pauli Rosi decisioned Eddie Compo, 8. Walter Brown outfought Earl Hilton, 8.

Masaji Akiyama beat Flash Elorde, 10. Larry Boardman defeated Johnny Guberia, 6, and stopped Rocky Randell, 4. Bobby Yantis, 3, and Willie Delk, 3. Jimmy Soo whipped Earl Clemmons, 7, and Aaron Tart, 7.

Damasco Collazzo beat Bobby Brooks, 6. Paul Jorgenson beat Bobby Garza, 10. Chico Martinez beat Marcelo Vargas, 10, but lost to Salvador Mares, 10. George LaMelza drew with Pete Ridgeway, 8.

Kenny Lane beat Mike Turcotte, 6. Al Duarte beat Bobby English, 8, but lost to Rocky Leone, 6. Americo Agostini lost to featherweight Elley Bennett, 12. Jimmy Grow kayoed Manuel Nito, 2.

Enrique Esqueda stopped Pepelero Sanchez, 8. Marvin Dick beat Jacques Julien, 6. Emilio Marconi held to draw by Marcello Padovani, 10.

Lalo Gallardo defeated Enrique Gomez, 10. Mario Ciccarelli blasted out Roger Delabassee, 2. Jean Laballette whipped Edgard Delannoit, 10.

Tommy Marciano defeated Reuben Davis, 7. Luis de Santiago thrashed Al Young, 8. Marvin Smith beat Jorge Macias, 10. Jacques Prigent whipped Rene Lacaze, 10.

Libby Manzo beat Jose Morell, 6. Pete Ridgeway beat Johnny Guberia, 6.

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Interim world champion Percy Bassett kayoed French lightweight champion Jacques Herbillon, 1.

Lulu Perez outscored Dave Gallardo, 10. Japanese champion Noboru Tanaka outponted Akiyoshi Akanuma, 10.

European champion Jean Sneyers decisioned lightweight Morlay Kamara, 10. Shigeji Kaneko won Orient title by outpointing Larry Bataan, 12.

Tomas Castillo won from Moi Torres, 2. Ray Famechon outfought Jacques Dumesnil, 10.

Juan Luis Campos drew with Fabela Chavez, 10. Angel Aldama beat Genaro Serafin, 10. Harry Ramsden decisioned Johnny Cole, 6. Teddy Peckham handed Steve Trainor his first pro defeat, 8.

Harry Smith beat Bobby Courchesne, 8. Mickey Mars defeated Herky Kaminsky, 8. Pedro Pina kayoed Baby Tampico, 3.

Enrique Lamelas kayoed Felix Triana, 4. Eddie Freeman outpointed Tommy Tibb, 10. Santiago Martinez stopped Manuel Perdomo, 4.

Australian champion Elley Bennett lost to Trevor King, 12 (non-title). King also kayoed Young Regan, 4. Al Tisi beat Charley Titone, 8, but lost to Ike Chestnut, 6. Transito Ramirez beat Rogelio Saucedo, 10. Frenando Silva beat Juan Martinez, 8.

Alby Tissong whipped Leopard Melumbo, 12. Art Mullin beat Kenny Adams, 6. Juan Medina defeated Al Triana, 6.

Hanania Bohbot evened scores for previous defeat by beating Sergio Milan, 10. Russ Tague drew with Dick Powell, 5. Davey Moore kayoed Eddie Crawford, 2. Billy Evans drew in six with Sec Gonzales.

Aldo Pravisani flattened Hans Schomig, 1. George Stephany beat Nick DeVanno, 6. DeVanno then beat Johnny Sheehan, 6, and Stephany in 6. Guillermo Roberts whipped Joey Gambino, 6.

Al Smith beat Bob Gory, 6. Gory also lost to Carmelo Costa, 6. Julio Escobar drew with Joaquin Carrillo, 10. Braxton Reed whipped Young Saint, 6, and stopped Vinnie Riccio, 2.

Joe Maldonado kayoed George Anderson, 3. Willie Delk beat Jackie Luke, 6. Ruben Salazar beat Billy Evans, 6.

Marcel Ranvial won on disqualification from Jacques Legendre, 7. Legendre also lost to Pierre Richaud, 10. Mario Posca lost to Sergio Milan, 8, but whipped Giovanni Zinno, 6.

Vic Ponce kayoed Henry Wills, 1. Al Lopez kayoed Art Hester, 5. Jimmy Roybal drew with Gil Velarde, 6.

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Chamrern Songitrat beat Henry (Pappy) Gault, 10. Billy Peacock stopped Jesse Mongia, 9.

Alberto Reyes upset Luis Castillo, 10. George O'Neill edged out Tommy Icke, 8. Raul Solis beat Panchito Gonzales, 10.

Flash Elorde lost to lightweight Masaji Akiyama, 10. Fernando Gagnon kayoed Pedro Figueroa, 2. Oscar Torres whipped Tony Maiorana, 10.

Australian champion Bobby Sinn kayoed Ric Padernal, 5. Tommy Vazquez beat Little Cuban Torres, 10, and kayoed Montio Galvan, 2. Lucio Gonzales whipped Genaro Serafin, 10. Serafin scored over Manuel Armenteros, 10.

Jorge Valverde beat Leandro Garcia, 10, and Salvador Ruiz, 8. Lino Botello beat Luis Villa, 10. Cecil Schoonmaker outpointed Jimmy Quinn, 10. Babe Lopez defeated Angel Iglesias, 10.

Jacques Colomb decisioned Tino Cardinale, 10. Cardinale came back to draw with Serge Gazard, 10. Belgian champion Pierre Cossemyns stopped Alex Bollaert, 9.

Andre Valignat held to draw by Andre Younsi, 10. Edmond Moletto whipped Jacques Louni, 8. Jacques Loit decisioned Andre Jasse, 10. Manny Ramirez beat Jackie Spurgeon, 6.

FLYWEIGHTS

Young Martin retained Spanish title by drawing with Antonio Diaz, 12. Memo Sanchez defeated Memo Diez, 10.

Pascual Perez kayoed Eduardo Lliuzi, 4. Charles Bohbot drew with Franco Lombardozzi, 10.

ROPE FIGHTERS

(*Continued from page* 29)

top-rung buckle. He was wearing a ring on that hand. And the ring finger got caught on the hook, jammed against the ring.

In momentum, and headed down, Rose couldn't stop. Between the immovable post and his pull the other way, the top of his finger was pulled off.

"The pain wasn't terribly bad right then," Rose said, "you know, you're in kind of shock. The blood was gushing and I poured a whole bottle of iodine over the finger.

"Funny, I remember hollering to some guy: 'Go up and get that ring (it was on the hook with part of the finger), that's valuable to me."

● ● ●

Charley was taken to Bellevue Hospital, where the doctors deliberated as to whether to amputate what was left.

All of a sudden in came Welsh, still in his boxing togs, over which he wore an overcoat. He hadn't waited for a shower, he just ran there from the Garden.

"You had me worried all during the fight," Freddie said, "now I want to get you out of here. I've got a doctor friend who may be able to save the finger with a skin-grafting treatment."

Welsh was too hopeful. His physician-friend admitted there wasn't enough to save. But his amputation was a good job. Within a short time, Charley could close his hand, which, at first, he couldn't do. Within six months he boxed.

The unchallenged maestro of rope-fighters, for any generation, was Johnny Dundee, ex-featherweight kingpin.

His habit was to back into the hemp, creating a spring-tension, and then bounce out and towards his opponent, deluging that soul with a volley from every angle.

Some people claim Dundee borrowed his style from Mike Leonard, the Bowery Beau Brummel, a contemporary of George Dixon's.

Still, if Leonard invented, Dundee perfected it.

Very few fighters solved the riddle of how to cope with Johnny voloplaning to a landing.

About the only one who could do it consistently was Benny Leonard, who'd dig him with a left hook to the body as Dundee came in.

There is a widespread story that Johnny got knocked out by Willie Jackson in that famous Philadelphia one-rounder because he bounded off the ropes into a Sunday punch.

As told by the Late Doc Bagley, Jackson's manager, here was what happened:

"Willie was strictly a boxer, 'Speedy Oscar' was his nickname, his real name was Oscar Tobinsky.

"I told him to take it easy for the first couple of rounds, not to take any chances with a good puncher like Dundee.

"He certainly obeyed. Right off the bat, he, Willie, now, not Johnny, backed into the ropes.

"Dundee started a left hook. Willie was desperate, frightened. He let a right hand go. He never could punch but God must have been watching over him that night. It hit the right place.

"Johnny was hurt bad. Still, he's a smart cookie and he held onto Willie.

"I yelled, 'Oscar, pull away, he'll fall.' He pulled away and Dundee fell forward. His chin caught on the lowest rope and he hung there while being counted out."

That was a 100 to 1 upset. Most fans didn't believe it could happen again. They were right. Jackson neved got close to knocking Dundee off his feet in nine more meetings.

And, with the true story revealed, it can be said that the ropes didn't play Dundee false. As a matter of fact, boxing history will show that there have been few justifiable raps against ropes. Ninety nine cases out of 100, it's the fighters who let the ropes down. Don't forget those are the guys at whom you want to yell, "How stupid can you get?"

BOXING IN THE CARIBBEAN

By Claude Ramsay

BOSWELL ST. LOUIS, Trinidad, and British West Indies lightweight champion retained his title recently at the Mucurapo Stadium, Trinidad, against Lennox Downes, who developed abdominal cramp and was unable to answer the bell for the start of the twelfth round.

Hugh Serville and Edmund Mason fought for the welterweight title on the same card when Seville scored a popoular decision to win the welter title.

Downes was taken to the hospital and examined, the authorities stated he was suffering from muscle strain. The writer can be contacted at "Stockwell House" Whitehall, St. Michael, Barbados, B. W. I.

NEW FACES

By FRED EISENSTADT

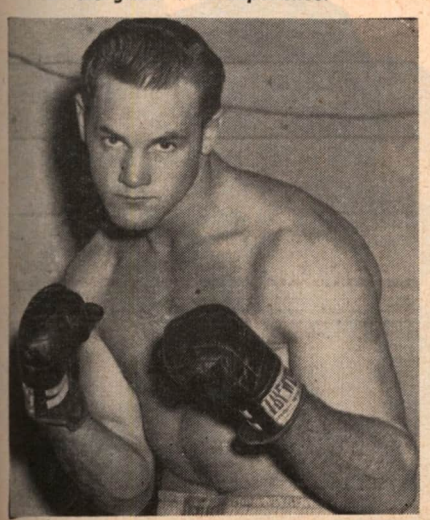
Joey Gambino, a fast moving lightweight from Levittown, L. I.

Joey Gambino

TO watch Joey Gambino in ring action is to see a good mechanic at work. This lad is possessed of real fistic talent; he knows how to move, has an excellent left—with which he can jab and hook, and a right hand that can drop a man. With but 15 pro bouts to his credit—of which he won 9, lost four and boxed 2 draws—four of them were main events, fought in Miami Beach, Florida. There he lost a ten- rounder to Johnny O'Brien, a seasoned scrapper who in 1951 held the New England bantam title. He defeated him the following week in 12 rounds.

"That's pretty good for a kid who turned pro on Oct. 20, 1952," claims Frankie Jacobs who co-manages Gambino with Irving Cohen. "Joey dropped a ten-round duke to Richie Howard, a thoroughly experienced lightweight, boxed an 8-round draw with Jorge Sanchez and on March 20, 1953 lost a close decision to former featherweight champ Willie Pep, who is still the best boxer in his division."

A New Yorker from the East Side, Angelo Urgitano is a middlweight who may make the grade with experience.



Joey first saw the light of day in the Yorkville section of New York on Jan. 20, 1930. He's the youngest of 17 children, ten of whom are living. After graduating from grammar school, Gambino took a job as a delivery boy. Later he worked for a construction company.

"He started amateur boxing at 16," informs Joey's brother Sammy, who trains him. "In two years he won fifteen out of 17 contests, then he joined the Navy, spending six months overseas. Joey had forty service bouts, losing only one. He was North-Eastern featherweight champ."

On being discharged in 1951, Gambino returned to boxing, winning 7 out of nine Golden Gloves contests, capturing the Long Island lightweight title (open class) that year. In 1952 he garnered the L. I., Golden Gloves featherweight championship.

For a short time Joey worked for the L. I. Railroad as a trackman. For the benefit of the girls . . . He's married!

"Please mention the fact," reminds Joey, "that I owe part of my success to Eddie Bell, who brought me out."

Carmelo Costa

A GREAT favorite at the Eastern Parkway Arena—where he fought 12 of his 17 pro bouts, without a single loss—Carmela Costa shapes up like a boy with a ring future. His style is interesting to watch—because it has class. His quick reflexes make him a difficult target to tag with a solid wallop; he hits his rival and steps back from counter-blows. Costa keeps moving around his foe, watchful, pot-shotting and getting away.

This mode of boxing has earned him victories over Leo LeBrun, Johnny Carr, Earl Hilton, Tommy Reed, Charlie McGarrity kayoing Mike Tucci. He also boxed a thrilling draw with Libby Manzo.

One of six children, Carmelo was born on May 10, 1934. He started putting on the padded mitts at the age of 13 at the PAL, learning the finer points of fisticuffing from Jerry Salica, who now co-manages him with Steve Paris. Costa went on to win the 105 and 118 pound PAL championships.

"While attending St. A's Catholic School, where he played on the baseball team," informs Salica, "Carmelo was also boxing in the amateurs. He won the Golden Gloves sub-novice bantamweight title in 1951. The following year he copped the 126-pound open Golden Gloves crown. He was awarded the Ray Robinson trophy as the outstanding boxer in the Golden Gloves."

In 1952, the handsome youth turned pro—after winning 58 out of 62 contests as a simon-pure.

Another lightweight showing promise is Carmelo Costa of Brooklyn, New York

A graduate of Automotive High School, Costa is matched for a "Big Event" with Miss Tina Barone, to take place on April 24, 1954—a happy affair which promises to be replete with abundant clinching.

Angelo Urgitano

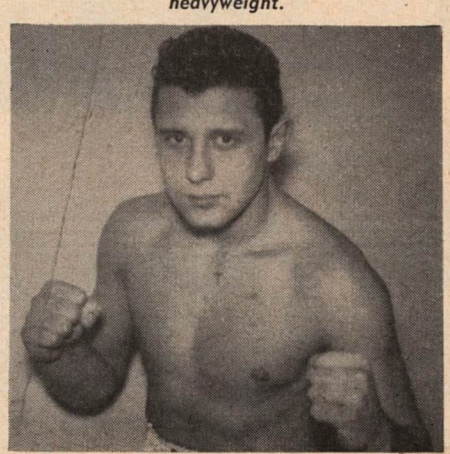
FOR a beginner, middleweight Angelo Urgitano in his four pro fights shows signs of having what it takes. For one thing, the lad—born on the East Side, on April 28, 1931—is sure of himself. He moves in fearlessly, disregarding the wallops he can't avoid, and tosses powerful rights and lefts at his rival. He's possessed with the kind of ring viciousness that makes his battles colorful and exciting. In his bout with the durable and hard-socking Rinzi Nocero at Madison Square Garden, Urgitano was loudly applauded for his terrific efforts.

Angelo won three fights by KOs.

"After graduating from Metropolitan Vocational high school," reports the young man, "where I'd taken up engineering, I began to prepare myself for a ring career—as that has always been my ambition. But in 1949, at the age of 17, I enlisted in the Army. A

Continued on Page 39

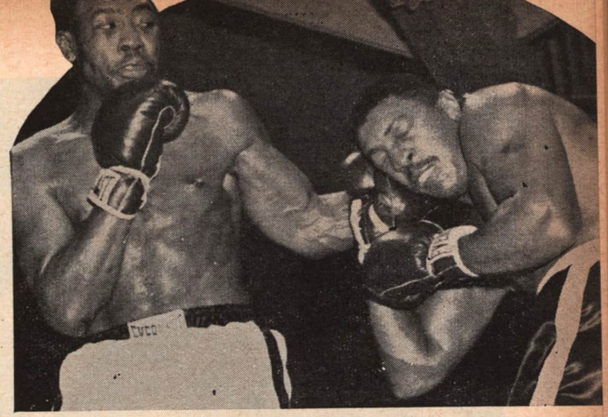
Billy Wade Mayo, a light heavyweight, who shows signs of developing into a full-fledged heavyweight.



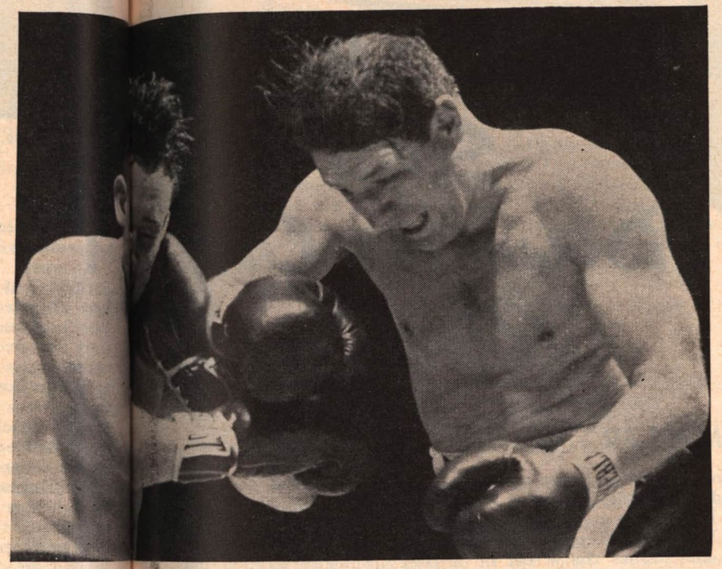
Rocky Castellani (left) lands with a left to the head of Gil Turner and starts a right in their middleweight bout at Cleveland. Castellani won the ten round decision.

VIEWS OF THE MONTH

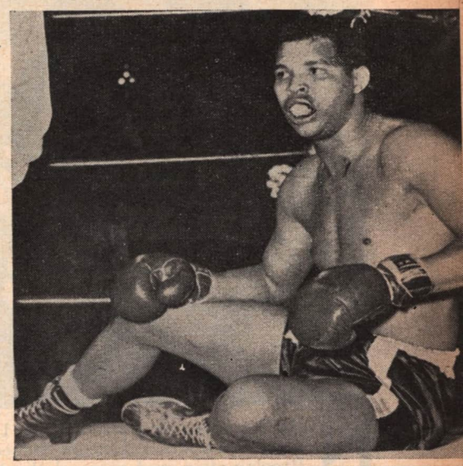
When Champs Meet. Yoshio Shirai of Japan (second from left), holder of boxing's flyweight crown, greets Rocky Marciano, heavyweight king, upon the latter's arrival at Tokyo International Airport for a series of exhibitions. Marciano was on a tour of the Far East.



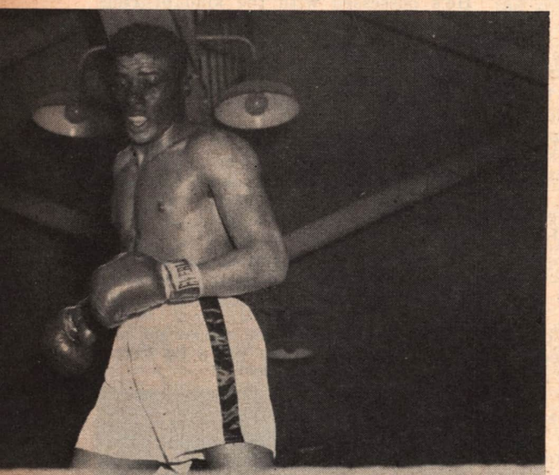
Oh, Henry! Clarence Henry measures Bob Baker for a right in a heavyweig battle at Eastern Parkway Arena. Henry, on the comeback trail, made good he pounded out a unanimous ten round decision.

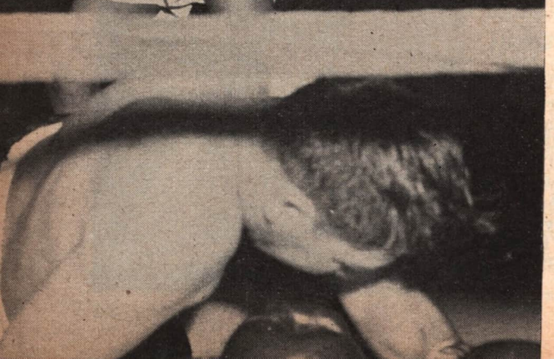


Welterweight Billy Graham (right) takes the offensive against Middleweight Paddy Young in a ten round go at Madison Square Garden. Young's style was made to order for Graham who took a unanimous 10 round decision.



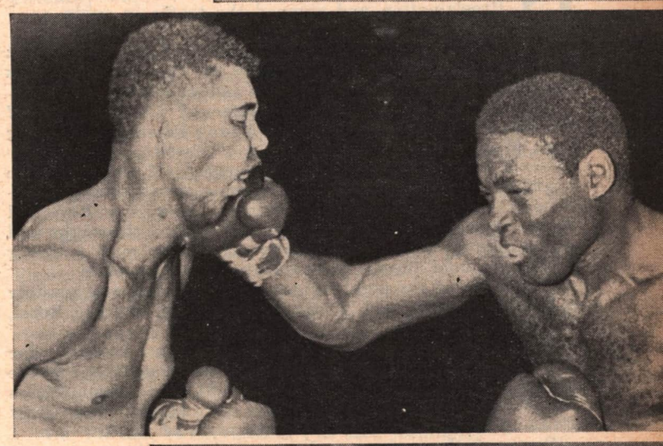
(Right) Coley Wallace is dropped in the eighth round of his bout with Ezzard Charles in San Francisco. Charles halted him in the tenth and last round. (Below) Ezzard Charles smashes a solid right to the chin of Wallace in the fourth round, distorting Coley's features. It was Charles all the way and the referee stopped the fight to save Wallace from further punishment with only seventeen seconds remaining.

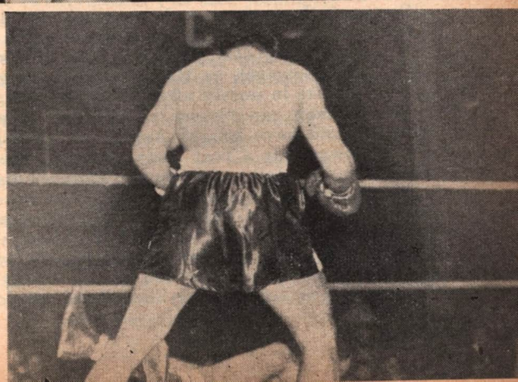




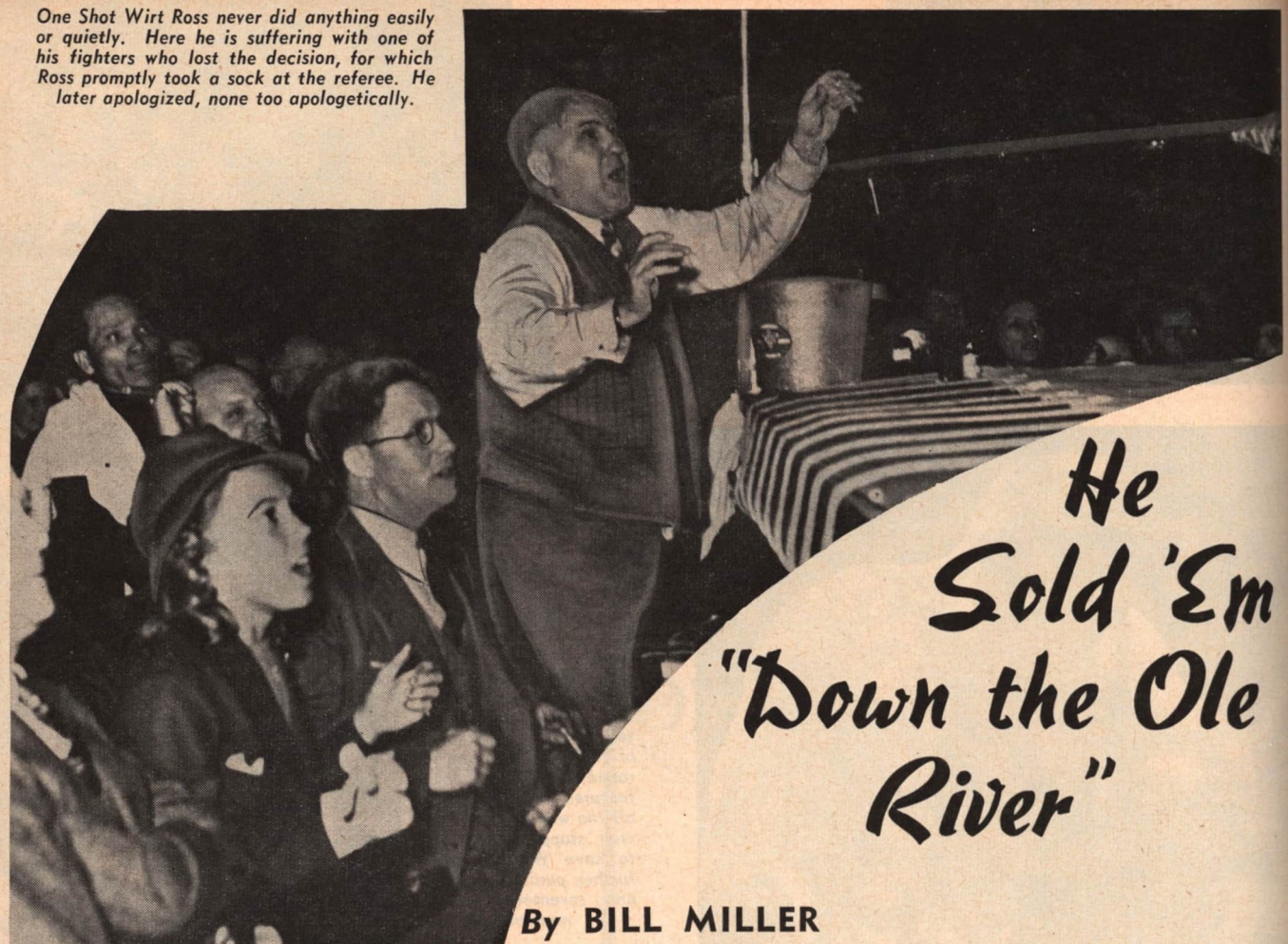
Undefeated Floyd Patterson, a ranking light heavyweight, stands over Dick Wagner after dropping him in their bout at Eastern Parkway Arena, Brooklyn. Patterson halted Wagner in the fifth round.

(Below) Voice of the Peeples. W. W. Peeples, Miami boxing promoter, tells Joey Maxim (left) and Archie Moore, world light heavyweight champion, to save their fighting for the ring as they sign for their title go. Peeples and the I. B. C. promoted the show.





Beginning of the End. Bob Satterfield stands over Ray Augustus after dropping him in the second round of their heavyweight bout at Rainbo Arena, Chicago. Augustus got up at the count of nine but was knocked out in the eighth round. In his next bout Satterfield was knocked out in the 2nd round by Ezzard Charles.



One Shot Wirt Ross never did anything easily or quietly. Here he is suffering with one of his fighters who lost the decision, for which Ross promptly took a sock at the referee. He later apologized, none too apologetically.

He Sold 'Em "Down the Ole River"

By BILL MILLER

NINETY years ago, on January 1, 1863, a Kentuckian named Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation and stopped the traffic in souls.

Oh, did he? Indeed!

Well, for the past thirty years, a Kentuckian named Wirt Langhorne Ross, known in boxing as Old One-Shot, has been doing a lively business in the sale of human beings.

You ever hear of Henry Armstrong? Chalky Wright? Freddie Beshore? King Solomon? Young Peter Jackson? Big Jack Warren? Ramon Dioses? Chief Evening Thunder?

Don't let me insult your intelligence! Of course you've heard of some of them. Two became world champions—Armstrong and Wright. Armstrong, now the Reverend Henry Armstrong, held the featherweight, lightweight and welterweight titles concurrently—the only man in ring history to hold three championships simultaneously.

Every one of the eight fighters above named, and possibly a few more, were sold "Down the River" by the Old Rebel, One Shot Ross.

He sold Armstrong for $10,000; King Solomon for $10,000; Chalky Wright for a package of cigarettes; Freddie Beshore for $5,000; Jack Warren for $1,500; Ramon Dioses for $750.; Young Peter Jackson for $1,500; and Chief Evening Thunder for the bargain price of $300.

Some of these were real bargains—for the gents who did the buying. A couple were no bargains at any price.

The Armstrong deal, in August, 1936, has been held up as a folly, inasmuch as Hammering Hank grossed over a million dollars in purses after Wirt sold him.

But no man can foresee the future; why, I remember when I could have bought Armstrong's contract for $250, and that was only a year or two prior to the deal whereby Eddie Mead, Al Jolson & Company acquired his management.

I'll go further than that in 1935, Wirt Ross offered me a half-interest in two fighters under his management for a half-interest in a big soldier I managed, named Butch Rogers. The two fighters? One was Henry Armstrong, the other Young Peter Jackson.

I was too smart for One Shot! I turned down the offer! No Kentucky slicker was going to get ahead of a shrewd kid from Ohio—no, sir!

But let me get away from this; it's a harrowing memory.

Wirt Ross is 80 years young—but he can still spot a blonde across the street on a foggy, smoggy day. It may not do him any good, but he can spot 'em.

Much has been written and said of the Old Rebel, but much has also been unwritten and unsaid. I propose to remedy that deficiency.

LET me go back down Memory Lane. I became Sports Editor of the Manila Daily Bulletin, in the Philippines, in 1919. I was still in the army, having shipped to the Islands after serving with the 91st Division in France.

Ross had been a soldier in the Philippines, but he had left Manila prior to my arrival there. However, they still talked about him at Tom Pritchard's Dixie Kitchen on the old Plaza Goiti.

In 1924, I joined the late, great Frank Churchill as general assistant—publicity, secretary right-hand bower, window-washer, and Vice-President in Charge of Outgoing Mail. We had been friends in Manila.

Churchill was a great admirer of Wirt's.

"Bill", he told me one day, in our office at the Loew State Building, New York, "that guy's the most gifted, talented liar I ever knew. He can look you right in the eye and blandly tell you a stretcher that you know is a cock-eyed prevarication."

The very next day, Frank got a phone-call in the office.

As he hung up the receiver, he turned to me with a big grin.

"Remember Wirt Ross?" he asked. "The guy I was telling you about yesterday? Well, that was Ross on the phone just now. Says he just got in from Panama with a heavyweight fighter named King Solomon."

"Oh, sure; that's the guy who's been scoring knockouts down in the Canal Zone", I said.

"Yep, that's the guy", said Frank. "Well, Ross says he's selling Solomon's contract to a millionaire named Braden

for $10,000. Can you imagine the nerve of the old rascal? But that's Ross, all over. When he tells a lie, he tells a big one."

The following day, into our office came a resplendent figure; a giant of a man, wearing a plaid suit of clothes, a pink silk shirt, a huge yellow diamond in his tie, another large diamond in a ring. It was Wirt Ross.

Churchill introduced us.

"Tell me about this deal, Wirt", he said, giving me a big wink. "Where's your fighter?"

"Oh, I've got him over at the HO-tel", said Wirt. "Gonna complete the deal this afternoon. Thish-yer rich guy, name of Spruille Braden, is laying ten grand on the line for him."

"Golly", said Churchill, "that's a lot of dough."

"Yeah, but he's a lot of fighter", stoutly said Ross.

"Drop in after you complete the deal", said Church. "We'll go to dinner, you and Bill and I, and talk about old times in Manila."

The date was made, and Ross left the office.

"Did you hear that monumental liar?" chuckled Churchill, after Ross had departed. "Ten thousand dollars! Why, the old rascal would sell his soul to the devil for half that sum. Well, you heard him, Bill; now wait till tomorrow! When he comes in, I'm going to ask him to let me look at that check. If he comes up with it, I'll eat your hat.

"He seemed pretty positive, Frank", I suggested.

"Oh, sure; that's Ross all over", grinned Churchill. "That's the beauty of his lies. He makes them all sound real. But you can bet all the bourbon in Kentucky that he can't weasel his way out of this one. I'm gonna insist on his showing me the check.

The following morning, One Shot dropped in; he had on a different suit, a green-and-red silk shirt, but the same diamonds.

"Howdy, boys" he said, expansively.

"Did you close the deal?" asked Frank.

"Sure, sure", replied One Shot. "Got the check right here, somewhere. Goin' back to Panama tomorrow."

"No foolin'!" said Churchill, turning to me and winking violently. "Say, I'd like to see a $10,000 check. Got it with you?"

"Yep", said Ross, beginning to explore his pockets. He frowned slightly as he searched, unable to locate the check.

"Now, where'd I put that thing?" he said.

"Probably left it on the piano at the hotel" joshed Church.

"Nope; ain't got no pyanno at my hotel", replied Ross. "Oh, here it is!"

It was a cashier's check for $10,000, payable to the order of Wirt L. Ross.

There was a dead silence in the office when Wirt left, after making a date for dinner that night.

Then—"I still think it's a cock-eyed lie!" burst out Churchill. But it wasn't; it was a good check, drawn on the Guaranty Trust Company of New York.

A year or two later, in California, I bumped into Ross in the office of the State Athletic Commission. He had two Negro boys in tow—little fellows.

"Hi, there, Bill", he said. "Meet my new boys; this here's Santiago Zorilla, and there here one's Pedro Amador. They're San Blas Indians. Just brought 'em up from Panama. Gonna be world champeens, both of 'em."

They never got to be champions, but Ross made money with them. Anyway, we both wound up as Californians, Wirt and I.

As the years rolled by, Wirt accumulated quite a stable. That's when he began to traffic in souls.

He sold Young Peter Jackson and Chief Evening Thunder to George Parnassus; Ramon Dioses to Norman Lockwood; Big Jack Warren to some fellow whose name I've forgotten; Freddie Beshore to Ralph Gold; Armstrong to Eddie Mead, who got $5,000 from Al Jolson, the rest from a Detroit gambler, an old friend.

That sale of Chalky Wright's for a package of cigarettes deserves special mention.

Chalky's a good friend of mine; I see him every day at the gym in Los Angeles. In the early Thirties, things were rough for Chalky. Come to think of it, they were rough and tough for a lot of other folks, the writer included.

At that time, Ross was Chalky's manager. Trouble was,

Wirt Ross tangled with the wrong guy when he told Jack Dempsey that his fighter, Freddie Beshore, would beat the Manassa Mauler's foreign importation, Jo Weidin. But Beshore had the right opponent that night and won.

fights were few and far between, whereas Chalky's appetite was always present and active.

It's an old Spanish custom, when a fighter needs moolah, to go to his manager. Well, all Wirt's fighters needed money, all the time—don't we all?

Things were none too juicy for Ross, either, at the time. Consequently, when he'd come up to the Main Street Gym, after stopping at the bar downstairs for three fingers of Four Roses, Wirt would cautiously peek through the door to see if any of his fighters were looking for him. They generally were.

If Wirt spied one of his boys, bent on a touch, he'd sneak into his dressing-room by the back door.

One day, following this procedure, he spotted Chalky at the far end of the gym—looking hungrier than ever.

Wirt hastily made his way downstairs, to the bar.

Johnny Keyes, the famed Mayor of Chinatown when he lived in New York, then—and now—a Californian, was standing there. Keyes was in partnership with Babe McCoy, now the Olympic Auditorium matchmaker.

"Hello, Woit", said Keyes. "Say—you still got that boy Chalky Wright?"

"Yeah", said Ross, cautiously. "Why do you ask?"

"Well, Babe 'n me, we might have a spot for him", said Keyes. "Not much dough in it, but these days, nobody asts questions, huh? You wanna sell his contrack, Woit?"

"You know me, Jawn", said One Shot, genially. "I'm always ready to do business on any boy in my stable. What'll you gimme for him?"

"Whadda ya want?" countered Keyes.

Wirt, who was only too anxious to dispose of Chalky's contract, hesitated a moment.

"Oh, I'll take twenty grand", he said joshingly.

Keyes stared at him gravely for a moment. Then, with a straight face, he replied:

"It's a deal", and with that, he dug into his pocket, drew out a half-smoked package of Twenty Grand cigarettes, and solemnly handed them to Ross.

Wirt look at Keyes, also with great solemnity.

Then he reached out for the cigarettes.

"You got yourself a fighter", he announced. "Come on up and I'll sign a release."

Keyes is in the restaurant business in San Diego; Ross lives on his little ranch in El Monte, and Chalky is a cafe manager and fight handler.

Later, Keyes sold Chalky's contract to Eddie Walker, allegedly for $250.—and in 1941, at the age of 29, Chalky knocked out Joey Archibald in the 11th round at Washington to become the featherweight champion.

News of the MAT World

By NAT LOUBET

WRESTLING payed another visit to the "House that Tex Built" and New York City's "Great White Way" never put on a musical comedy with more laughs and honest entertainment than the business conducted at the Garden under the heading of wrestling.

11,651 people in the guise of fans rambled past the ticket windows and into the arena to pay a neat $34,469 for the evening's festivities.

Topping the card was the Verne Gagne, ex-Minnesota football star, TV star, and contender for Lou Thesz's world title, crossing arms and legs with Antonino Rocca, Argentina's bare-foot boy, known to the fan clubs as "Legs Rocca."

The match was anything but exciting until the boys decided to exchange drop kicks. Rocca, known for this type of mayhem, came out second best with a mangled knee and was carted out of the arena and to a local hopital. It was later announced that he would be unable to wrestle until the following night.

Gagne, on the other hand has been practicing in recent months a hold known as a "sleeper" which was not on exhibition this eve. If any one went to sleep it was the crowd. Scribes and fans alike were satisfied when at 25:17 the match came to its end.

Gagne announced over the loud speaker that he didn't like to win in this manner. A true sportsman, he disclaimed the victory.

The tag team match saw a substitution when the Sharpe brothers, Mike and Ben, were snowbound and unable to make plane connections. Lu Kim and Bibber McCoy, always in shape, were called upon to sub for the Sharpe's and faced Bill Melby and Billy Darnell. The two Bills were victors in two out of three falls with the usual amount of comic relief being furnished.

Ray Thunder, 222, of Brooklyn was unable to make a lightening (so sorree) and went to a 20 minute draw with Puerto Rico's Pedro Escobar, a 216 pounder.

Matt Murphy, 224, Los Angeles, pinned Clyde Steves, 241, Brockton, Mass., in 15:18. Tony Cosenza, 210, Flushing, taking the part of the heavy was defeated in true cinemaland fashion by the straight man, played by Frank Milano, 236½ of Huntington, L. I., in 2:41. Hal Kanner, 217, Brooklyn, took the measure in "over the river" fashion from Angelo Savoldi, 221, Parsippany, N. J.

• • •

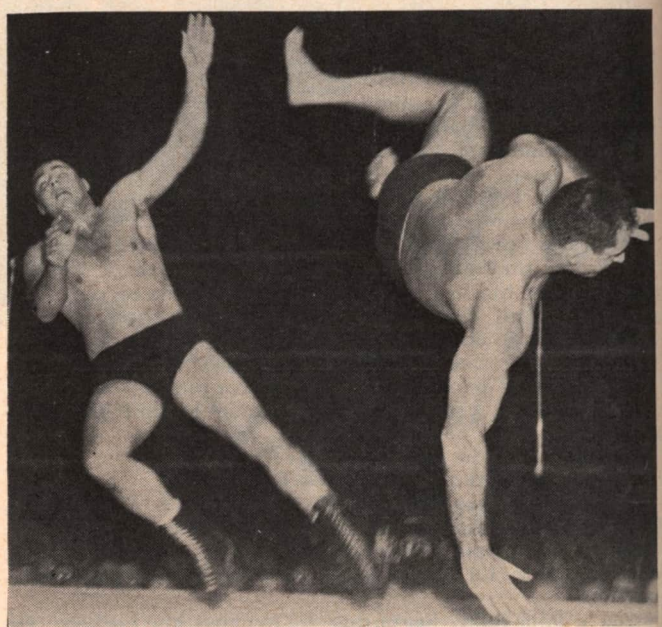
HAGERSTOWN, Ind., saw a first in wrestling when Champion Lou Thesz appeared in a title match against Big Bill Miller at the high school gymnasium.

The little Hoosier town, having a population of only 1,600, holds the destinction of being the smallest town in the United States to feature Thesz in a recognized title bout.

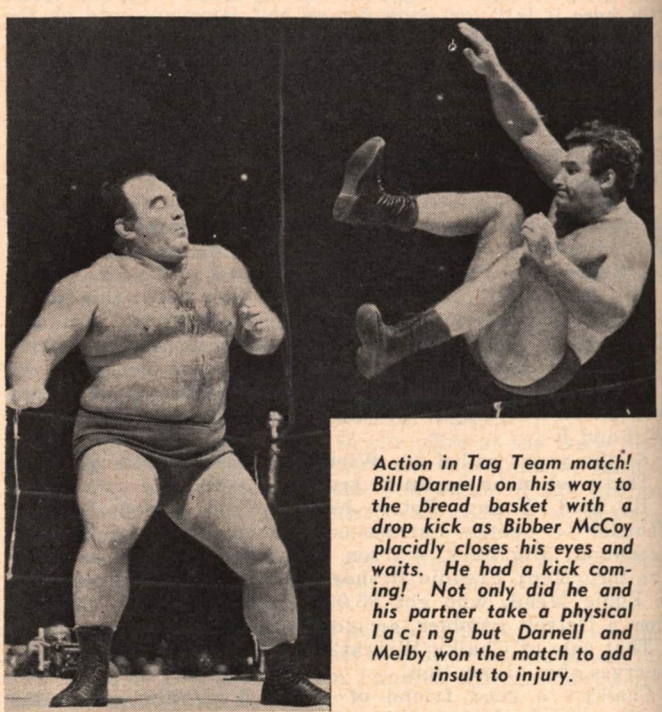
Promoter Matt Mercurio, staging the show for the Junior Chamber of Commerce, wedged 3200 spectators into the gym which was built to hold only 2300 basketball followers. A box office check saw a gross gate of nearly $5,000, which is $2,000 more than the previous top. Ringside ducats went at $3.00.

Thesz and Miller went at it tooth and toe-nail with the champ winning the first fall in 5:17. Miller, a former Ohio State University gridiron and mat star, came back to tie honors with a backbreaker in 42:15. For the remaining three minutes neither man was able to score a pin. Thesz weighed 230-pounds; Miller, 265

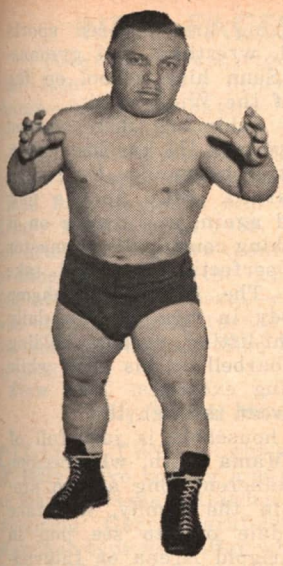
Professor Roy Shire, a blond ruffian from Chicago, and Clever Frankie Talaber, of Columbus, O., went to an hour stalemate in the semi-windup. Cowboy Len Hughes, 235, and Jack Pesek, 220, grappled to a draw in the opener.



Verne Gagne (left) the recipient of a drop kick by Antonino Rocca in their recent Madison Square Garden bout won by Gagne when Rocca mangled his knee.



Action in Tag Team match! Bill Darnell on his way to the bread basket with a drop kick as Bibber McCoy placidly closes his eyes and waits. He had a kick coming! Not only did he and his partner take a physical lacing but Darnell and Melby won the match to add insult to injury.



The Great Shultz, 47 inch, 98 pound midget who is a tough customer. (Photo by Bob Utter)

Herbie Benson, popular Hoosier promoter, is now running shows in three Indiana cities. Benson runs cards in Marion, Wabash and South Bend, and books his men from the Cliff Maupin Agency in Toledo.

The American Legion Male Chorus, promoter of wrestling in Anderson, Ind., recently completed their third year as one of the state's leading wrestling organizations. Paul Whitecotton does the matchmaking and booking for the group. They have 35 members in the Chorus.

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Violet Viann

BORN in Kansas City, Missouri, although she now lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where she recently built a $30,000 home, Miss Viann points with pride at her home which has become emblematic to her of her wrestling success.

A graduate of Manual High School in Kansas City the 5′ 2″ twenty-five year old 130 pounds of attraction is a natural athlete who was a star in basketball and swimming during her school days.

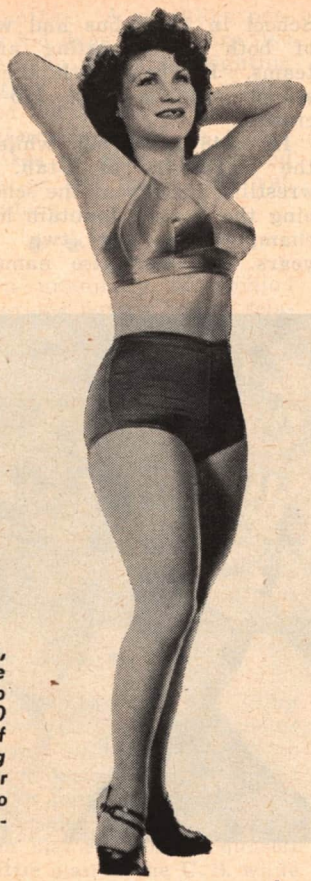
"I always was the adventurous type," remarked Violet, "and I guess that it was because of that nature that I entered wrestling after I finished school. My family was against it, especially my big brother, who felt that I was too small and might get hurt, but that didn't stop me. I was determined to wrestle and to prove that I could take it."

"I went into training, and what I lacked in size I was able to make up in speed and determination."

Miss Viann got her professional start at Memphis, Tenn., back in 1946 and since then has been grappling all over the U. S., Canada, Cuba, Mexico, South America, and Puerto Rico.

A top wrestling star on TV she has carried the nickname of "The Little Tiger," which has evolved from her original handle of "Little Tiger Dynamite," tagged onto her at Mexico City in her early days.

The gal has a nice repertoire of ring holds and her natural speed and grace in the squared circle make her a colorful mat star.



Violet Viann, a brunette beauty, who has 130 pounds of grappling glamour packed into 5′ 2″ of outline.

"When I quit wrestling, I suppose that I'll buy a ranch somewhere around Tulsa, so that I can have room to raise all the animals that I have always loved and wanted," says Violet.

In the meantime the pretty brunette is out to win the World Champion Girl title, She's got what it takes as you can see by her photo.

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The Great Shultz

ANOTHER mighty mite of the mat who recently made his debut in this country is the Great Shultz, a young fellow hailing from the Alsace-Lorraine coal mines, whose grappling style was copied after the late Gus Sonnenburg.

Having only been in this country for a few months, Shultz is highly respected by his fellow workers and has acquired a following unprecedented in wrestling annals.

Standing 47-inches in height and weighing 98-pounds, the great one is a muscular marvel and would make any sculpture a suitable subject. Like Halie Salasie, the greatest of all midget grapplers, Shultz is a powerhouse and relies on brute strength as his main weapon for winning bouts.

Seldom do most wrestlers agree over other wrestlers being great, but in the case of Shultz, nothing but praise is handed him by those who have faced him in the ring. He's not only strong but possesses the required knowledge and skill to make him the head man among midget matmen.

His favorite offensive weapon is of course the Sonnenburg butt which he has perfected to a tee.

Karl Kruger, a new-comer from Germany, who is catching the fans' fancy. Height, 49″; weight, 96 pounds. (Photo by Bob Utter)

Karl Kruger

BORN in Hamburg, Germany, rugged Karl Kruger is one of midget matdom's hardest workers and a great crowd pleaser where ever he works!

Kruger's father was an officer in the Prussian Army and it was his wish that if he ever had a son that the youngster follow in his father's footsteps. However, Kruger senior could not accept the cruel trick fate had handed him by giving him a son who did not register to the superior physique characteristic of the family.

Young Kruger did everything during boyhood to help develop his body but there was nothing anyone could do . . . he was a midget. The bitterness and resentment of his parents finally drove Karl from home.

A lucky day in the boy's life was when he ran into a good friend in New York City, who like Karl, decided to make the United States his home. This friend was a former physical instructor to Kaiser Wilhelm's sons. Kruger told this friend that he was interested in getting into wrestling and asked if there was anything that he could do. Having studied Greco-Roman style grappling in Europe, and with the help of his good friend, Karl soon picked up catch-as-catch-can groaning and was soon to make his debut.

Weighing 96-pounds and standing 49-inches in height, Kruger now makes his home in Toledo, O. He likes to wrestle clean but if the occasion calls for it, Karl can get as rough as the next guy!

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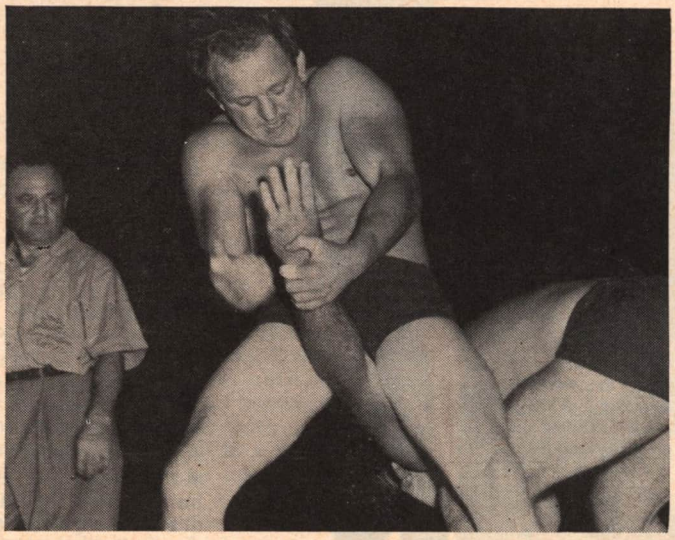
The Gulf Coast area saw an interesting switch when Paul Boesch, popular Houston, Texas, grappler and video announcer, was challenged to a midget car race by the idol of the mat fans down that way by Big Humphrey, a 325 pounder. The race was started and refereed by another grappler, Abdullah Bey, the Turkish Terror.

Two Ton Tony Galento has a part in "Waterfront," a movie with a yarn on conditions around the New York and New Jersey dock areas. Tiger Joe Marsh another of the wrestling clan also has a part in the picture. . . . Tony is getting in shape by reading Shakespeare. . . . The poor Bard, Tony, famous for his histrionics in the ring

Lou Thesz played Santa Claus at recent Xmas party given by Arch Hindman. Kneeling (left to right) Bob Utter, Ring correspondent, Lou Thesz, Arch Hindman, chairman of Indiana Athletic Commission, Billy Thom, Indianapolis promoter, and Matt Mercurio, Richmond, Va., promoter. Standing, Elbert Hood, and Dick Patton.



Billy Goelz exhibits his mastery of leverage which he learned from Lou Talaber, veteran grappler.

and as a grappler, had this to say, "I figure this actin oughta be easy . . . after all I done some wrestlin didn't I?".

Wrestling fans out on the Pacific Coast recently were allowed to enter the Olympic Auditorium for free. How come? Promoter Cal Eaton has a TV contract for wrestling every Wednesday night, but on this particular evening Cal also found himself with a boxing card scheduled with Dan Bucceroni facing Freddie Beshore. What to do? Boxing started at 6:30 and was over at 9:30 when wrestling went on. Anyone who saw the boxing was invited to remain and see the grappling match sans pay. Also anyone else who wanted to come to the match was allowed to do so without payment.

We are sorry to report that Earl Caddock, Jr., son of one of the mat game's all-time greats, passed away at 34 at Des Moines.

The fan clubs around the country are doing a superb job and putting more life into the game. Miss Harriett Smith, President of the Greatest Scott Fan Club, has been doing a lively job. Another wide-awake gal is Pat Schnee, head of Prof Shire's Fan Club and recently a co-sponsor of Promotions Limited, which is a "club" devoted to publicity, setting up dinners and the furtherance of wrestling promotions and increasing the popularity of wrestling.

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JIM LEWIS
(Sketch by Bob Utter)

JIM LEWIS was born in Columbus, O., 28 years ago. He stands an even six feet tall and weighs 215 pounds. Lewis graduated from the East High School in Columbus and was captain of both the wrestling and football teams. He held both the city high school and the state 175-pound mat crown.

In 1948 and 1949, while attending the University of Utah, Jim made wrestling history at the school by winning the Rocky Mountain heavyweight championship for two consecutive years. He was also named all-Conference guard on the football eleven for two years in a row.

Turning to pro wrestling in 1949, Jim was tutored by Don Eagle and the famous Indian's father, Chief War Eagle. At that time both Don and Jim were training at the Indian reservation.

Like most newscomers to the fraternity, Lewis has swapped locks with some of the best. Big Fred Von Schacht, the Great Scott, Frankie Talaber, Irish Mike MeGee and Buddy Rogers.

"Von Schacht, the big German," frowns Jim, "is one of the roughest men I have ever faced. Frankie Talaber and Jackie Nichols are two of the smartest."

Jim is married and has three daughters, Virginia, Kathleen and Elizabeth. He likes anything that is good to eat, especially steaks and vegetables. His one thought in life is to win the junior heavyweight belt.

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A RING SCIENTIST NAMED GOELZ
By Norman Reissman

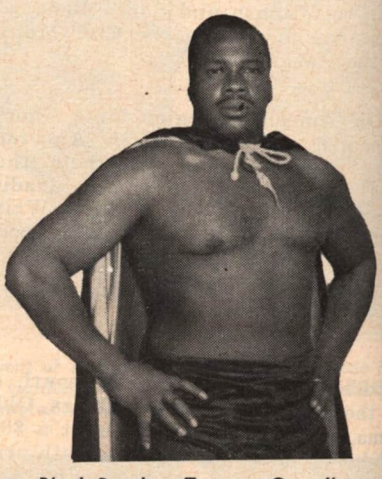
THIS is a day of keen styles and individual traits. To make a name in any sport, you've got to stand apart from the masses as does Billy Goelz.

Billy is a Fox Lake, Illinois, warrior, known as a student of the game and a shrewd tactician. He first won his acclaim in 1945, but due to a lack of competition in the junior-heavy class, he found few challengers until this year.

Few wrestlers ever turned pro, as Billy had, before their 18th birthday. He was a Chicago Parks champion at the time, having first entered sports as a football, wrestling and gymnastics star at Senn high school on the North Side of the Windy City.

How many holds has Billy learned through the years? He has lost count. It's much better to wonder how many he hasn't learned. Billy finds a new hold now and again, and dwells on it for days, working continually to master it. Only a perfectionist would take such labors. The 33-year-old champ keeps the body in trim with a daily stint of weight-lifting, such as holding a 370-pound barbell on his back while doing squatting exercises. Nice work if you can sweat through it.

The Goelz household is just full of sport fans. Mama Ruth, who became a wrestling adherent long ago to preserve peace in the family, will take 7-year-old Eddie out to see pop in action at Marigold Arena or International Amphitheatre, where he's gained steadfast popularity on Fred Kohler programs, and when there is no baby-sitter, Georgia and Ginger, aged 4 and 2, may also come along. Eddie is completely in awe of his pop. Once after watching him dropkick a foe to the canvas, he returned home to tell friends, "Do you know . . . my pop can really fly through the air . . . like superman!"



Young Black Panther, Toronto, Canadian grappler who combines real skill with showmanship to give the fans what they want. He will shortly be seen in U. S. rings.

During the war years, he served as an anti-aircraft sergeant in the Aleutians, under heavy fire. He spent six years in the army, and his days off were devoted to teaching mates his countless holds.

WINNIPEG, CANADA
By Cy Louth

ALEX TURK'S latest wrestling card in the Winnipeg auditorium was a hectic one, and even Referee Wally Karbo, usually a favorite in this city, got a panning. In fact, one fan was so irate that he attempted to attack the genial Minnesotan on the legs for his decision in awarding villains Joe Pazandak and Kinji Shibuya the nod in the third and final fall in a tag team match against Bob (Mr. Ameri-

(*Continued on page* 41)

NEW FACES

(*Continued from page* 31)

year later, I got a dependency discharge—my father having become very ill."

Back to the gym went Urgitano, to follow his urge for fisticuffing. But Uncle Sam beckoned him back to the Army. That was in 1952. He was let out after serving five months. He lost no time in entering the Golden Gloves. But after four contests—of which he won three—Angelo turned pro under the management of Mike Miele early in 1953.

Billy Wade Mayo

SIX-FOOT-TWO light-heavyweight Billy Mayo sprung a surprise upset at Madison Square Garden recently by trouncing Gary Garafola—a Rocky Marciano type fisticuffer who'd lost but two out of 15 pro fights. The lanky lad, undismayed by Garafola's looping wallops, stood his ground and traded socks with his powerful foe. The victory has endowed Mayo with prestige and much-needed confidence. The somewhat shy southerner seeks, to gain friends via his walloping fists; also to find a place for himself in the fistic circle.

The stork delivered Billy Wade Mayo in Oglethrope, Ga., on March 15, 1932. At 16, he quit high school to work as a timber cutter. "Reason I became a boxer," he explains with a boyish smile and a delightful southern drawl, "is ah simple one: Ah like to fight. In 1949, after having three amateur bouts, Ah enlisted in the Army. During my 3 and a half years in the service—two of them on the Korean battlefront—Ah took part in 27 bouts, winning twenty-two of them."

Discharged in August, 1952, Mayo returned home and went back to felling trees—and resumed his fistic career as a pro. After a few fights he decided to try his luck in New York rings. But that was only a far-off dream. So he continued to topple timber around Oglethorpe. Finally, he got in touch with Ralph Como, manager of Jimmy Herring, who agreed to handle him. After winning six pro fights by knock-outs, Billy came to New York.

"With more experience," observes Como, "Mayo'll chop down opponents, the same way he cuts down trees."

WHEN IS A BOY A MAN?

(*Continued from page* 17)

was 19 Tony was boxing Bud Taylor for the world's bantam title and was already recognized as one of the outstanding boxers of the period. Canzoneri fought for 15 years.

Tami Mauriello, who was only 16, got around the ruling, by simply presenting an older brother's name and birth certificate. Tami's teens were taken up fighting people like Billy Soose, Gus Lesnevich, Steve Belloise, and other high ranking battlers of the time. He was over the hill at 24.

Tony Janiro, who still looks cherubic after all these years, was another who got around the underage rulings in one way or another. A sparkling performer in his kid days too, Janiro like Slattery, loved fun more than fighting and this rather than being rushed along, crimped his career.

Jimmy McLarnin looked so young boxing the likes of Bud Taylor and Pancho Villa on the coast, he was tagged "Babyface".

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There is a unanimity of opinion among the various boxing bodies relative to restricting the operations of "under-21" boxers. Down in New Orleans, 18 year old Ralph Dupas, is only permitted to go 8 rounds, in New York 6 rounds would be his limit. This flashy youngster, like Patterson, is going to give the bigwigs something to think about very soon, as he is closing in on the topnotchers, and since he won't be eligible to fight ten rounds for a couple of years, some exception will probably have to be made in his case as well as Patterson's.

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A quick riffle through the *Ring Record Book* reveals that many famous fighters ranging all the way back to the last century were knocking on the champions' door long before their 21st birthday. Decades ago, the great George Dixon had established himself as the best little man in the U. S. while still in his teens. Dixon was a world's champion, before he reached the age of 20. Despite his early maturity in the ring, Dixon fought for 20 years. Lasting this long even though he could have taken far better care of himself. There were no restrictions on age or the distances of bouts in that long-gone era and Dixon engaged in a bout lasting 26 rounds while still 18 years of age! Such a contest today, involving a boy of this age, would bring the cops on the run, with life suspensions or even jail sentences handed out to all implicated.

Billy Conn, according to the records had whipped 3 former worlds Middleweight kings before reaching his 20th birthday, Babe Risko, Teddy Yarosz, and Vince Dundee.

Back in the Twenties, one time lightweight king, Sammy Mandell, had gained national prominence, and top ranking as a contender, at just 19 years of age.

Pugilistic prodigies are much more frequent among the littler fellows as bigger men mature much more slowly as a rule. Heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano, who started out at 24, wasn't even thinking about being a fighter, at an age when many small men had already seen their best days.

Patterson's manager Cus D'Amato is naturally wary of hurrying things along too fast, thereby risking the ruination of a rare prospect. The commission is in a real dilemma, since the only opponents capable of meeting him are the topliners, with those of lesser merit being unacceptable. To curtail his activities for the next two years, or until he reaches 20, would probably hamper his progress.

It seems that the only solution here is to forget regulations in his case and taking him at face value, regard him as any other contender, a contender of such unusual qualifications, that exceptions must be made in his case.

The precedent here is the success gained by such prodigies as Loughran, Canzoneri, Dixon, Attell, Carpentier, Conn and others in the past. None of them suffered through being given premature tests of fire.

DARK CONTINENT COMES TO LIGHT

(*Continued from page* 9)

youngster of thirteen. Siki's spectacular success in Europe, however, did arouse interest in boxing in his native habitat, but the sport has never taken hold quite as firmly there as it has in other sections of Africa. Occasional "spot" shows, with special appeal to the local citizenry, do good business in Dakar and Abidjan, but trying to promote on regular schedules is too risky a venture. The infrequency of the cards, however, hasn't had too deterrent an effect on the development of native talent, and quite a few French West Africans have done well for themselves in international competition. Currently, Dakar has two entries fighting steadily in Europe—middeweight Constant Alcantara and lightweight Morlay Kamara —while the Kongo district is represented by an exceptionally promising youngster, Idrissa (Eddie) Dione, a native of Brazzaville, who recently annexed the French welterweight title.

PROBABLY the most interesting boxing progress in Africa these days is being accounted for just south of the French territories, in the British colonies of Nigeria and the Gold Coast.

Just how and where the sport was introduced there, we wouldn't know, but it has only been in the last dozen years or so—since the early stages of World War II—that the "outside" world has been hearing of the lively fistic doings there.

In the Nigerian capital of Lagos and several Gold Coast centers—Accra, Kumasi and Sekondi—boxing shows are staged regularly, usually featuring local attractions, and they've been consistently drawing large, enthusiastic crowds. More than that, they've proved remarkably fertile fields for fistic talent, and a score of Nigerians and Gold Coasters have made fine reputations for themselves in Britain and on the European continent. The best known of the lot is Roy Ankrah of the Gold Coast, who currently holds the British Empire featherweight title. Another is Hogan (Kid) Bassey of Nigeria, who recently stunned London critics by handing their latest favorite, Sammy McCarthy, his first defeat as a professional.

Talent is, indeed, where you find it. And there still are many untopped sources of potential ring riches to be found in Africa.

The once Dark Continent has become one of the brightest spots on the international fistic map.

RING PROSPECTS MAKE GOOD

(*Continued from page* 27)

The three others who gained world prominence after first being named by this publication as good prospects are Pierre Cossemyns, Belgium bantamweight, who was chosen in the May issue, and Dai Dower of Wales, a flyweight who was chosen as our outstanding fighter in the July number and Hector Constance a welterweight from Trinidad was picked in our March issue.

The lucky thirteen who have advanced to the "A" group from raw novices are all excellent fighters. Jed Black, Young Michigan State Collegian, who upset former lightweight champion, Ike Williams, in his last fight, was picked by "The Ring" in the September issue as the best prospect in his class. The win over Williams was scored in Jed's first ten rounder.

Alex Santoy, of San Antonio, Texas, is a bantamweight who has moved up from a four rounder to the fringe of the ranking men. He showed ability in holding Pappy Gault to a close decision at the time when Gault was still the American bantam king.

Jose Cotero, of El Paso, Texas, still another bantamweight, has been fighting on the west coast. He was picked in the November issue, and only a few days later made his main bout debut by stopping Jesse Maniga, Cotero like Santoy, has just missed making the rankings.

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Rated by boxing experts as the brightest young prospect to come along in many years, Tony Anthony, 18 year old middleweight from New York City who was an Olympic star, was our choice in the April issue.

The remaining ten who have made the A class are:

Lightweights—Santiago Esteban of Walesburg, Colorado; picked in January; and Cisco Andrade of Los Angeles, Calif., tabbed in the Ring's March issue.

Featherweight—Fernando Silva and Enrique Lamelas of Cuba. These boys recently fought a draw, showing how evenly their rapid advance has been. Silva was chosen in August, and Lamelas the month before.

Middleweight Bill Larrigo of Australia was a March choice as leading prospect, as was flyweight Ardillo Lopez of Mexico.

Baby Independence of the Philippines was our flyweight choice in April, the same month that Lucio Gonzales of Mexico was the bantamweight pick.

Speedy Akira of Japan was tabbed as the flyweight prospect in our June issue. Pro bantamweight Hilaire Prates, of France was tabbed in our January issue. All have made good and justified our selection. It is through these Monthly Ring Ratings and Best Prospect Listings that these youngsters have become known.

Thirty-eight fighters who are listed as Class B talent in this annual issue, were among those chosen as "The Best Prospects of The Month" during various parts of the year.

In the January issue, we tabbed Tommy Jackson of Rockaway, L. I., a heavyweight; Light heavyweight Chuck Speiser of Lansing, Mich., Welterweight Vinnte De Carlo of Philadelphia and Carmelo Costa, Brooklyn, N. Y., Featherweight and Joe Taylor, a flyweight from England.

In March we selected Leonard Dugan of Oakland, Calif., a heavyweight. He put up a good fight against champion Archie Moore shortly after in a non-title fight. Charley Colin of France, a light heavyweight, who has improved a lot and Joey Gambino of Brooklyn, a lightweight.

April choices showed the following: light heavyweight Chuck Woodworth of Utah; lightweight Dixon Hoxey of Seattle, Wash., and featherweight Steve Trainor of England.

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In Ma we had middleweight Bobby Boyd, of Chicago, Ill., light heavyweight Andrew Godwin, of Mississippi, welterweight Billy Lepido of New York; lightweight Bobby Bickle of Kansas and flyweight Ali Martucci of Venezula.

Richie James of Philadelphia, Pa., Willie Pastrano of New Orleans, Ike Chestnut, of New York, and Nate Brooks, of Cleveland, Ohio were picked in June.

Our July issue tabbed welterweight Felix Benson of Philadelphia, Pa., and lightweight Johnny Busso, of New York and featherweight Enrique Lamelas of Cuba.

In August we had as top light heavyweight Tommy Thompson of Quantico, Va., middleweight Jimmy Watkins of Buffalo, N. Y., welterweight Monroe Kurtz of Newark, N. J. and lightweight Tommy Marciano of Phonixville, Pa.

"The RING'S September selections were Don Grant, Los Angeles, Calif., light heavyweight, Eddie Dixon, Newark, N. J.; middleweight. Only Eddie's two losses to Tony Anthony keep him from our Class A rankings.

Lightweight Paul Jorgenson of Texas, and featherweight Edgar Perkins of New York, also were September choices.

Four lads who moved up to B men from the novice class and who were "Ring" Prospects in October, are light heavy Neno Solomon of Chicago, Ill.; welterweight Lou Gage of Oakland, Calif.; featherweight, Mickey Mars of Cleveland, Ohio; and lightweight Rocky Randell of Rome, Ga.

Rocky scored the most wins of any pro fighter in 1953. He rolled up 21 in 25 fights.

Davey Moore, a featherweight from Akron, Ohio, and Stan Jones a middleweight from Houston, Texas were listed in the November issue as prospects and already have leaped into the Class B field. Howard King, Reno, Nev. light heavyweight was a January choice.

Yes sir, "The RING" can take a bow, for it's foresight in correctly picking these boys.

Polish up that crystal ball, you promoters. Look into it. You'll find the talent you're hunting for if you stick to "THE RING'S" selections. They are tops. That's why they are universally recognized, and "The Ring" is called "The Bible of Boxing."

Special Notice to Our Readers

Due to the heavy increase of postage rates, we respectfully request that readers who desire to have answers to queries forwarded by mail, enclose postage to cover the cost.

NEBRASKA BOXING

By Floyd Hayes

OMAHA, Nebraska—With the year of 1953 gone it marks the death of professional boxing in Omaha. Not one professional boxing show was staged in Omaha in 1953. The Omaha promoter staged two shows across the river in Council Bluffs, Iowa, amusement park but lost money on both shows which consisted of prelim boys in the main events.

Those who count the receipts blame it on television but that is not so. Ask any Omaha boxing fan. Omaha is a good sport town but the boxing fan here is tired of being hoodwinked. He watches a man on television and hears his record. The same man comes to Omaha to fight and the fan is told that the fellow is undefeated and a contender. Even the publicity releases on local boys claim that the fellow has never been beaten and the fan remembers very clearly how badly beaten the boxer was on a show they saw on TV. The fan just isn't buying any more tickets under the professional boxing show setup here. They will pack the place for an amateur show.

The State Athletic Director should throw boxing open to any qualified promoter and put the game back on a competitive basis here. I'm sure that boxing would then boom again as does wrestling here, which packs 'em in.

The great referee tolled the final ten count over to popular figures of the Nebraska boxing realm during the closing weeks of 1953.

Don Lee, former Edison, Nebraska middleweight died from a bullet wound in the lung. News reports state that it was a case of Lee making a mistake and trying to get into the wrong room at a motel. Lee had been assigned room 6 and in looking at the key, he read the tab as 9 and tried to open the door. The occupant told him to go away but Lee still tried to open the door with his key. He was warned to go away or he might get shot but he still tried to enter. The occupant fired through the door and the bullet entered one of the ex-boxers lungs. He died a few days later. The incident took place in Inglewood, Calif.

The other death that saddened the Nebraska boxing followers was the passing of Clarence E. (Buck) Jennings who served for many years as a State Boxing Inspector. Buck had been in ill health with a heart ailment for some time. Mrs. Jennings died of a heart attack on a Monday and the shock was too great for Buck. He joined her on Wednesday.

SHORT JABS:—Angelo Bruno, featherweight sensation of years gone by now operates a tavern on Railroad Avenue in Omaha and boasts one of the better boxing photo collections in town. The photos don the walls of the brew parlor.—Jimmy Gaughan, another former featherweight is training the Cudahy Athletic Club Golden Glovers for competition in the coming tourney.—Sammy Williams, Omaha middleweight, has added another trophy to his bulging trophy case. He was named as the boxer of the year by the Omaha YMCA for his Golden Glove achievements in 1953. This was the second year in a row that Williams copped the honor. His achievements included the winning of the City Golden Gloves Middleweight title, the Midwest Golden Gloves championship, runner-up in the tourney of champions at Chicago, a winning performance in the Chicago-New York inter-city bouts and the International bouts. For his performances at Chicago in the Golden Gloves he was presented the Tony Zale Sportsmanship trophy. (Williams is now undefeated in the pro-ranks with two knockouts in his two bouts.)—I want to take this opportunity to thank all of my boxing friends for the many greeting cards which I received from all over the country during the holiday season.—Remember to get your news in my hands by the 2nd day of each month. My address is 3414 So. 25th Street, Omaha, Nebraska.

NEWS OF THE MAT WORLD

(*continued from page* 38)

ca) McCune and Montreal's strong boy, Tony Baillargeon. The annoyed customer—and there were a few others like him—was shoved to the back of the hall by burly police officers who patrolled the premises.

Jumping Joe "40 Seconds" Pazandak, the crowd called him after the first fall. It took just that time on the official stop watch for McCune and Baillargeon to ruffle up and pin the shaven-headed tough boy from Minneapolis.

But the Little Sergeant came back at 24:30 and turned the heat on Baillargeon with a vengeance, badly crippling him with a reverse leg-lock. The final fall, which caused all the rumpus, came six minutes later when Karbo disqualified Baillargeon for being in the ring while Pazandak was lying prostrate on the floor outside. But as Wally and Tony argued, Kinji, the Jumping Jap, put the pride of America to sleep with a series of judo chops and a strangle. Karbo, however, was too busy on the opposite side of the ring to see that. Cries of "Down with Karbo" and "We Want a Referee" echoed throughout the battle quarters.

In the semi wind-up, Roy McClarty, 236, Winnipeg, redeemed himself after a poor showing in a previous tag team match by forcing Vic Holbrook, 256, of Long Beach, Calif., to say "Uncle" in 16:45 of a scheduled 45-minute bout. He clamped on a back breaker hold, and the Californian decided to take no chances.

The Holbrooks have proved unlucky in Winnipeg rings, and in the special event, Dick Holbrook went down to defeat at the hands of Mike Clancy, 22, of Boston. The time was 16:35. It was a good bout, with both grapplers putting up a fine battle. There was practically no dirty work afoot.

Ole Olson, Winnipeg's wrestling fireman, drew the wrath of the crowd when he turned villain for the first time. He chose as his victim 190-pound Red Bastien, of Minneapolis. Despite his 205 pounds and dirty tactics, Olson, who is not proving much of a pro wrestler, managed only to hold his lighter and more popular opponent to a draw.

AUSTRALIAN WRESTLING NEWS

By T. A. Gannon

MEETING in the final match of the 1953 Australian wrestling season at Newcastle, Johnny Moochy, the long-haired American badman, and Leo Jensen, current holder of the Australian heavyweight championship, gave the packed house one of the most boisterous matches of the season. After each had gained a fall, both men completely disregarded the rules and engaged in a two-man war that finished when referee Joe Dawson, himself a former heavyweight champion of this country, declared the match "no contest."

Tops in popularity with Down Under fans during the year were Don Beitelman, the clever Buffalo youngster, and Lucky Simunovich, spectacular dropkick star from Honolulu. Pat McGill, a clever mat expert from California, was also well liked for his fast, clean grappling, while Pierre LaSalle, despite his rugged tactics, gained a good following from the fans.

The veterans, Dick Raines, Dutch Hefner and Chief Littlewolf, here on their umpteenth visit, had nothing new to offer. Littlewolf announced that this was his last journey to Australia, while it would not surprise greatly if Raines and Hefner were amongst those absent next season.

The summer season at Leichhardt should be every bit as good as in previous years as the fans have taken to the tag matches presented each week with local boys featured and, in addition to this, "Wallaby" Bob McMaster, the ex-football star who has had more than five years wrestling experience in Europe, has been signed for a series of bouts. McMaster is fast and rough and Queensland fans are expecting to see a new Australian champion when the Wallaby clashes with Leo Jensen.

George Pencheff, the bronzed dropkick expert who has shown his talents all over the world, may also be available for the summer season and will prove a threat to both Jensen and McMaster. George is one of the most experienced matmen in the game.

In the junior heavyweight division, Stan Andrews and Allan Pinfold, both undefeated since their return from India, are in line for a title shot with current title holder Alf Greer. Rocky Riley, a fast and experienced grappler from Sydney, is another with his eye on the junior heavyweight title and some thrilling encounters may be expected in this division.

Wrestling is booming in the country centers in New South Wales and many top flight local wrestlers have been showing their wares before rural audiences.

Roy Heffernan, the muscular Mr. Australia of the mat, may soon be making an invasion of American rings. Heffernan, after a successful tour of Malaya and India, has just about run himself out of opposition in England and is looking for new pastures.

Another young Sydney matman hoping to get his chance at main event contests during the summer is Frank Potter, who has acquitted himself well in preliminary contests during the winter season and is now ready for bigger and better things.

NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND

By Brian F. O'Brian

THE New Zealand wrestling season closed on a disappointing note when "Dirty Dick" Raines, one of the current masters of ring histrionics, changed his mind at the last moment and cancelled his plane tickets to the Dominion (he is at present in Australia).

During the winter, two giant British grapplers, Earl McCready (Canada) and Arjan Das (India) stood out amongst all other matmen campaigning in New Zealand rings, with McCready's two victories to the Indian's one earning him number one ranking. Big Earl is now 46—he remarried in New Zealand a few months ago—and the Indian only a shade his junior, but the mammoth pair still have too much on the ball for most of the younger fry.

Best of the others was the American, Don Beitelman. Here are the records for the 1953 season:

	Bts.	W.	L.	D.	No Dec.
Earl McCready (Canada)	21	13	1	6	1
Arjan Das (India)	15	9	2	3	1
Don Beitelman (U.S.A.)	36	16	8	11	1
Ken Kenneth (N. Z.)	5	3	1	1	—
Luky Simunovich (Hawaii)	25	6	12	6	1
Bobo Wright (U.S.A.)	14	3	7	4	—
Ray Clarke (N. Z.)	19	1	15	3	—
Jon Morro (Australia)	1	—	1	—	—
Wadi Ayoub (Lebanon)	3	—	3	—	—
Frank Borich (N. Z.)	1	—	1	—	—

This correspondent may still be reached at 27 Taft Street, Brooklyn, Wellington, N. Z. Regret cannot send clippings or pictures—demand too great.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

By Hugh Shannon

MANY thousands of Buffaloians who watched the Joey Giambra-Bobby Dykes fight on Television were disappointed when Joey dropped the unanimous decision to Bobby Dykes at Miami Beach, Florida on January 6. Giambra has been coming along like a champion for several years, losing only two decisions in 39 battles. However, Joey was certainly not himself in the Dykes fight. He failed to use his left hand and depended too much on getting over his good right hand wallop. Joey is a good hitter but must learn that a "left hand" is quite necessary.

Promoter Tommy Lippes of Buffalo is eager to sign up Giambra and Dykes for a return match in Buffalo's Memorial Auditorium.

Jamestown promoter Tommy Moore was honored by about 200 friends at a testimonial dinner in his behalf at the Masonic Temple in Jamestown, Jan. 12. Moore, a veteran of World Wars One and Two, has been active in the boxing game for more than 35 years.

Four former Buffalo ring stars were hospitalized in December. They were Jimmy Slattery, Jimmy Duffy of Lockport, and former world's lightweight champions, Jimmy Goodrich and Rocky Kansas.

WRESTLING . . . Promoter Ed Don George is enjoying another good wrestling season. He introduced a number of new faces and the fans have turned out in good numbers for his shows. George stages his shows in Memorial Auditorium every Friday night.

Junior Singer's big gymnasium at Washington and North Division Streets in Buffalo is a busy place these days. At least a hundred up-and-coming amateur boxers are in training as well as twenty or more professionals.

Your correspondent can be addressed as follows: Hugh Shannon, 299 Maple Street, Buffalo 4, New York.

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BROADCAST FROM NEW YORK

By JERSEY JONES

WELL, well, well! Look who's in the sports news again! Bep van Klaveren, the globe-trotting Dutchman. After getting a few peeks at the sort of stuff cluttering up European rings, Bep apparently couldn't resist the temptation to take another whirl into the realm of the flying fists. He has just celebrated his latest return to competition, this time after an absence of nearly six years, by taking an eight-round decision from a French journeyman middleweight, Tino Pierluigi, in Rotterdam.

Our records list van Klaveren as having made his terrestrial debut on September 26, 1909, which would now put him in his 45th year.

American fans of two decades ago well remember Bep. He was a popular attraction in the United States during the early '30's. Spending nearly four years on his first visit here, he campaigned clear across the continent, from New York to Los Angeles, tangling with such top lightweights and welterweights as Baby Joe Gans, Eddie Ran, Billy Petrolle, Stanislaus Loayza, Ceferino Garcia and Young Corbett III. Bep was particularly popular in New York, where he fought a dozen or more bouts, and lost only one—to Petrolle.

Van Klaveren made another trip here during the winter of 1939-40, but after three fights in New York and one in Chicago, the outbreak of World War II sent him scurrying home for service in the Dutch army.

With Holland overrun by the Nazis, Bep's military hitch was spread all over the globe. He was in the Far East when the war ended, and he returned to Europe.

In 1947, Bep decided to try his luck in the ring again. He was then nearly 38, and had been away from serious competition for seven years, but he hadn't forgotten how to handle his fists. In a stretch of fifteen months, he fought nine times, and his only defeats were suffered in a lively three-bout series with Luc van Dam for the Dutch middleweight title. Bep won the first episode, but van Dam came back to take the next two and the set.

Once again van Klavern's ring activities were halted when he accompanied his wife, an Australian, to her homeland for the birth of their second child. Bep planned to continue boxing in Australia, but whatever the reason, or reasons, he didn't, and it looked as though he'd finally called quits to his colorful leather-tossing career.

Now, back in Holland, he's at it again—more than a quarter-century after winning his first important laurels, the Olympic featherweight title in Paris in 1928.

But Bep still has some distances to travel to catch up to a few of the marks set by long-gone generations. He seems fairly certain to pass Jack Britton, who ended his ring warfare at 45, but Jack Johnson was 48 when he fought his last bout, John L. Sullivan was 49, Bob Fitzsimmons 52—and Jem Mace a sprightly 59!

IT was somewhat ironic that Rocky Kansas, a few months short of 59 when he died recently in his native Buffalo, should have become world lightweight champion well after he had passed his peak. In his heyday, the stocky Bison City Italian (nee Rocco Tozzi) was about as formidable a fighting machine as the lightweight division ever has known—good enough to knock out Richie Mitchell and batter decisions over Lew Tendler and Charley White—but he was unfortunate in coming along at a time when the 135-pounders were bossed by one of the ring's all-time greats, Benny Leonard. It was after Leonard retired as champion that Kansas, then a fading veteran, finally acquired the title.

Rocky had four losing experiences with Leonard. They met first in Buffalo, early in 1919, a year before Benny became champion. Leonard, not yet 20, but already a brilliant mechanic, was too fast and clever for the chunky, 21-year-old Kansas. As title-holder, Benny whipped Rocky three times within a period of thirteen months from June, 1921, to July, 1922. The first affair was a 12-round no-decision meeting in the old Newark International League baseball park in Harrison, N. J., the second a 15-rounder to a decision in Madison Square Garden, and in the series' windup Leonard stopped Kansas in the eighth round in Michigan City, Ind. Rocky cracked a bone in his left arm early in the fight, but gamely tried to carry on. The odds were too much, however, and Kansas was a battered, bleeding mess, near collapse, when his manager, Dan Rogers, heaved in the towel to save him from certain knockout and possible serious injury.

It was three and a half years later that Rocky finally achieved his ambition to become world champion. On December 7, 1925, he met up with fellow-townsman Jimmy Goodrich in Buffalo. Goodrich had just won an elimination tournament, sponsored by the New York State Athletic Commission, to determine a new champion after Leonard's retirement. Kansas, then 30, with fifteen years of busy campaigning behind him, had enough stuff left to pound his way to the decision and the title. Rocky didn't hold on to the laurels very long, however. Seven months later he was outpointed by Sammy Mandell in Chicago.

SHORT JOLTS. . . . Things are beginning to assume a more normal complexion along the local fight beat. Maurie Waxman is back in town, slightly older, somewhat more mellow, but vociferous as ever. Not even two and a half years as a suppressed member of Chris Dundee's menage in Miami Beach were able to stifle Maurie's exhuberant spirit. At least, not permanently. Waxman needed only a few days in New York, to get the feel of things again, and his voice and enthusiasm became as boisterous as ever. Maurie is currently selling two interesting parcels of fistic merchandise. He has taken over the tub-thumping for Bobby Gleason's Cuban heavyweight, Nino Valdes, with the main objective a crack at Rocky Marciano and the world title, and he's teamed up with his former fighter, Bobby Ruffin, in developing Libbo Manzo, promising young Elmhurst lightweight.

(Note to the gent who does the commentary for Ray Arcel's Saturday night TV fights: Italo Scortichini is not, and never has been, Italian welterweight champion.)

Since the death of Jimmy Dixon, Paddy DeMarco's affairs are being handled by Cy Crisci, who also manages Carmine Fiore.

A promising young English welterweight, Billy Wooding, with only a half-dozen preliminary bouts behind him, was given a big promotion recently when nominated to fight for his area title. The distance was twelve rounds—and the kid hadn't gone beyond six before. But he did all right for himself in his first main event over the long route. He whipped an experienced opponent in Eric Skidmore. During

the fight, however, Wooding complained of a toothache, and after the bout he hustled along to a hospital to have it attended to. An X-Ray revealed the "toothache" to be two fractures of the jawbone.

Hymie Wollman probably is thankful the fur business isn't quite as rough on him these days as the fight market has been. In recent weeks, Hymie's stable has been getting some rugged jolts. Johnny Bratton was annihilated by Kid Gavilan in Chicago, Orlando Zulueta was trounced by Wallace (Bud) Smith in Madison Square Garden, and Randy Sandy collected successive lacings from Willie Troy in Washington and Walter Cartier at Eastern Parkway. Hey, Hymie, how are you fixed for mink?

THE appointment of Murray (Muzz) Patrick to the coaching job of New York's hockey Rangers recalls the time the younger of Lester Patrick's two talented sons showed considerable promise as a heavyweight boxer.

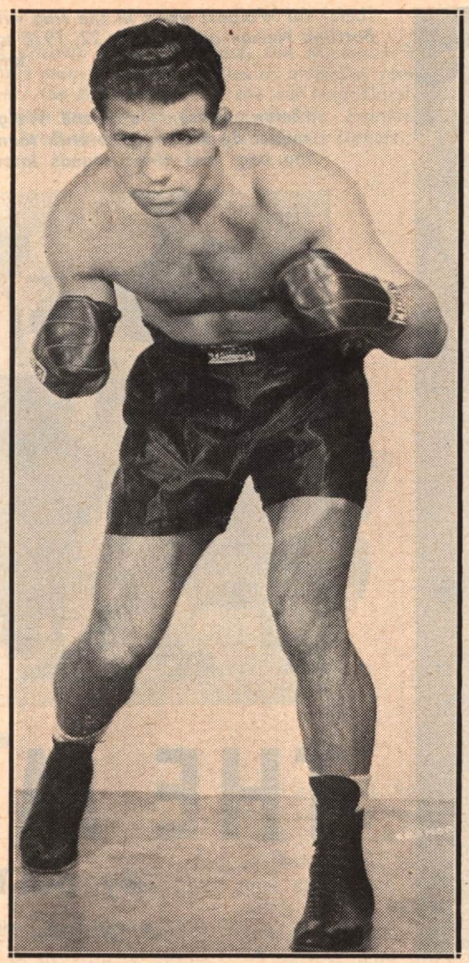
Muzz was quite an all-'round athlete, starring in hockey, bike racing, football and basketball, and it was only natural that he'd try his luck in boxing, too. It was back in 1935, as we recall, that Patrick, then 19, but a husky lad standing over six feet and scaling a solid 190 pounds, won the Canadian amateur title in Edmonton.

Following the 1935-36 hockey season —he was then playing for the amateur New York Rovers—Muzz remained in New York to compete in a Catholic Youth Association boxing tournament. A couple of successes in city-wide eliminations qualified him for the final in Madison Square Garden, and Muzz looked very good in beating clever Will Gould.

Young Patrick's ring career halted at that point, however. He'd been having trouble with his nose, cracked a couple of years before in football, and after the C.Y.O. tourney he decided to have it looked at. An operation was recommended—but it also was recommended that Muzz give up any thoughts of future ring activity to avoid complications to his repaired olfactory department. Patrick had the operation, and the ring lost a fine heavyweight prospect.

THE month's results:

In a showdown between Champion Jimmy Carter's ranking lightweight challengers, Wallace (Bud) Smith, 136½, Cincinnati, bulled his way to a decisive win over Orlando Zulueta, 135, Cuba, in a hard-fought but not too exciting ten in Madison Square Garden. It was the fourth meeting of the rivals and the verdict put Smith out in front with a 2-1-1 score. The rugged Ohioan forced the action all the way and was too strong for Zulueta. The usually shifty Cuban couldn't seem to find a defense for Smith's lunging left hooks and was jolted repeatedly. In the semi-final, listed for eight but cut to six because of TV time, George Justine, 138, Philadelphia, edged out a disputed decision over Sauveur Chiocca, 141, France. In another eight, Gene Jones, 211½, Philadelphia, returned to action after a ten-months' layoff and proved too ringwise for aggressive Bert Whitehurst, 186, Baltimore. A blasting left hook had Whitehurst down and almost out in the third, but the gritty Marylander came back with a strong rally in the closing rounds. In fours, Bob Gory, 129½, Peekskill, won from Dave Carillo, 127, East Side, and Cleo Ortiz, 119¾, Puerto Rico, decisioned George Stepney, 124, Harlem. Attendance 2,991; gross gate $7,708.



An old favorite of American fans, Bep van Klaveren, at 45, is still fighting in his native Holland.

Justifying his selection by the Boxing Writers Association as the "Rookie of the Year," Floyd Patterson, 167¼, Brooklyn, gave away ten pounds in weight and turned in one of his most impressive performances to date by stopping the veteran Dick Wagner, 177¼, Toppenish, Wash., at 2:29 of the fifth at Eastern Parkway. Wagner had previously given Patterson a rugged argument in the same ring, but this time he was completely outclassed. The speedy, sharpshooting Patterson had him down twice in the third, ripped a gash above his left eye in the fourth, and battered him to the canvas again in the fifth, when Referee George Walsh decided the massacre had gone far enough. The semi-final, listed for six, was over in a flurry, Johnny Busso, 140½, East Side, disposing of Johnny Betancourt, 139, Long Island City, at 1:48 of the first. In another six, Ray Drake, 157, Far Rockaway, suffered his first defeat in nine pro starts when he dropped a decision to Angelo Urgitano, 160¾, East Side. Al Robbins, 148, Norfolk, Va., drew with Frankie Frese, 143¾, West Side, in a third six. In fours, Bill Keener, 192, West Side, outfought Frank Flood, 178½, Pueblo, Colo., and Tony Juliano, 132, Brooklyn, kayoed Pedro Figuaro, 130½, Puerto Rico, at 2:04 of the fourth.

Conceding 10½ pounds in weight and six years in youth, Billy Graham, 150¼, East Side, turned in one of the finest exhibitions of his long, busy career in outclassing Paddy Young, 161, Greenwich Village, in an entertaining, albeit one-sided, ten in Madison Square Garden. It was Graham's 101st victory in 121 bouts, packed into thirteen years of ring warfare. The 31-year-old East Sider was too shifty and ringwise for the rugged, plodding Young. Paddy forced the action practically all the way, and occassionally succeeded in connecting with lusty left swings to Graham's body, but for the most part he was a slow, open target for Billy's stinging left jabs to the face and snappy two-handed combinations to the head and body. Young suffered a cut alongside the left eye in the fourth and a gashed right eyelid in the fifth. For two popular local attractions, the attendance was disappointing, only 5,280 of the neighbors children turning out. Gross gate receipts were $17,553. Paolo Rosi, 134¾, Italy, edged out Eddie Compo, 131¼, New Haven, in a hard-fought semi-final eight. Irwin Schulz, 165¼, Yorkville, outslugged Tommy Thompson, 168¾, Quantico, Va., in six. Another six ended at 2:23 of the fifth, Tony Anthony, 159¾, Harlem, stopping Roy Alston, 153½, Trenton. Paddy Flood, 143, Yorkville, whipped Walter Capa, 147, Brooklyn, in the opening four.

Despite advantages in height and reach, as well as 27 pounds in weight, Bob Baker, 211½, Pittsburgh, boxed as though he was scared stiff in letting Clarence Henry, 184½, Los Angeles, take an easy decision in a dull ten at Eastern Parkway. Henry tried to make a fight of it but received little cooperation from Baker, who probably was haunted by fearsome recollections of a previous meeting with the Californian in Madison Square Garden two years before. On that occasion, Baker was winning handily when he suddenly ran afoul a blasting left hook in the eighth round. This time the Pittsburgh giant, boxing cautiously, refused to take any chances. He permitted the lighter Henry to set his own pace and boss operations all the way. Only in brief flurries in the sixth, seventh and tenth did Baker display any animation, and each time he quickly retreated to his shell when he found Henry more than willing to trade punches with him. Walter Brown, 131¼, Baltimore, won from Earl Hilton, 134, Philadelphia, in a lively semi-final eight. Knockouts ended a pair of scheduled sixes. Joe Shaw, 158, Brooklyn, disposing of Wilfredo Miro, 158, Cuba, at 2:37 of the fifth, and Waddell Hanna, 175¾, Philadelphia, eliminating Ray Bryan, 174½, Brooklyn, at 1:12 of the sixth. In fours, Artie Thelemaque, 147, St. Albans, outpointed Walter Kapa, 142½, Brooklyn, and Craig Roland, 145¾, East Side, won from Lou Beaudro, 148, Coney Island.

Showing for the first time in a local ring, highly-touted George Benton, 154, Philadelphia, was something less than sensational in edging out a split decision over Bobby Jones, 155¼, Oakland, Cal., in a mauling ten at Eastern Parkway. Mainly a counter-puncher, Benton displayed rare talent for using elbows and shoulders, on both offense and defense, and in one round, the eighth, he used them so profusely that Referee Mark Conn penalized him the round for "unnecessary roughness." The bobbing, weaving Jones was aggressor most of the way, and had the better of the early going, but Benton began to come on at the half-way mark and did enough effective scoring in the closing rounds to sneak through to the decision. The Philadelphian accounted for the best punch of the fight, a right to the jaw staggering Jones near the end of the ninth. Al Tisi, 124½, East Side, outpointed the veteran Charley Titone, 126, Brooklyn, in the semi-final eight. Guillermo Robert, 135½, Cuba, won from Joey Gambino, 127, Astoria, and Carmelo Costa, 133½, Brooklyn, decisioned Bob Gory, 130¾, Peekskill, in a pair of sixes. In fours, Howie Turner, 201½, Jamaica, outpunched George Washington, 213, Brooklyn, and Bill Tate, 157¾, Brooklyn, whipped Jimmy Climente, 162¾, East Side.

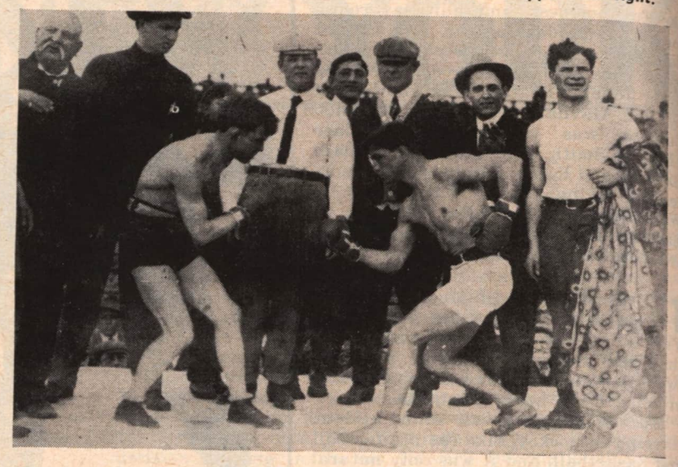
Profiting from the lesson he learned in the same ring five weeks before, Lulu Perez, 130, Brooklyn, came back with his own assortment of back-alley tactics to edge out Dave Gallardo, 130, Los Angeles, in a scrambling ten in Madison Square Garden. The decision gave Perez a 2-1 lead in the series with the Californian. It was an exciting but sloppy affair, with both boys guilty of butting, spinning, heeling and general roughhousing. There were no knockdowns, but Perez slipped to one knee in the second. Gallardo was wrestled through the ropes twice in the eighth, and the entangled rivals tumbled to the canvas together in the ninth. There was little to choose between them in the roughhouse brawling, but Perez earned the verdict by shiftier boxing and sharper punching at long range. Gallardo was handicapped from the third round on by an old cut reopened over his left eye, which worsened as the fight progressed. The bout, topping the first New Year's Night boxing card in the Garden in seventeen years, drew a sparse gathering of 3,243 and a gross gate of $8,201. In the semi-final, listed for eight, Tony Anthony, 158, Harlem, was too much for Richie Anderson, 158½, Cleveland, and stopped him at 2:27 of the fourth. Veteran Dennis Pat Brady, 138½, Bronx, knew too much for Johnny DiGilio, 140¾, Bayonne, in another eight. In fours, Gene Johns, 147½, Harlem, won from Bobby Dalton, 148, Hartford, and Henry Smith, 140, Brooklyn, flattened Nick Gadson, 136¼, Newark, at 0:41 of the fourth.

Uncovering his best performance locally in two years, Walter Cartier, 161, Greenwich Village, hammered his way to a decisive win over Randy Sandy, 158½, Brooklyn, in a hard-punching ten at Eastern Parkway. Aggressor all the way, Cartier not only out-

(*Continued on page* 48)

(Left) Ad Wolgast waits in the ring with his handlers for the battle to begin with Battling Nelson on February 22, 1910 at Pt. Richmond. Wolgast scored a 40 round knockout.

(Below) Nelson (left) and Wolgast squared off for the cameras in good shape. By the thirty-seventh round Nelson was thoroughly beaten, a punching bag, and three rounds later Referee Eddie Smith stopped the fight.



THE MICHIGAN

By NAT FLEISCHER

(The second in a series on the career of Ad Wolgast)

IT was after he had cleaned up everything in Grand Rapids, then one of the nation's best fight spots, that Ad Wolgast decided to move about. Once he came to New York to show his wares and he fought a no-decision six round thriller with the Britisher, Owen Moran, and shortly after he headed west again until he reached California where his most lucrative and important battles were held A ten round contest with Abe Attell, on December 11, 1908, was a sensational one and that was followed by many more such affairs.

Feathers were becoming scarce and Ad decided to enter the next higher division, the one in which he soon reached the top rung of the ladder. His first encounter with a legitimate lightweight was with George Memsic, one of the nation's toughest and best, and though it went the limit of ten rounds in a no-decision mill, Wolgast had all the better of it and so the newspaper reports described the battle.

At the time, Tom Jones, who it will be recalled handled Big Jess Willard when he was matched with Jack Dempsey, was in Los Angeles. He had just fallen out with Billy Papke, another world champion, and since Wolgast was making his own matches, Tom induced him to join his stable. The pair hooked up and that's how Jones took his place among the top managers of America as the handler of three world fistic kings—Papke, Wolgast and Willard.

Before engaging in any more bouts, young Wolgast decided to pay a visit to his Cadillac home where he was warmly received. The people insisted on having him give an exhibition and on the day of the affair, he was paraded through the streets looking like a dude. He wore a tight fitting suit, the custom of the times, displayed a huge diamond ring and a sparkling diamond tie pin and a pocket full of money besides a good sized bank account. With the latter he bought a farm for his family two miles out of Cadillac.

• • •

Under the management of Tom Jones, Wolgast really started to go places. He jumped from city to city meeting the best available talent and his name became a regular headline on the sports pages of the nation.

Up to the time he won the title, he had no bad habits other than heavy smoking. Fighting was his game and he was wise enough to realize that fast living gets them all eventually. Hence when he was in training, no power on earth could get him away from his quarters after nine o'clock. It was only in his later years that he became physically unfit, all due to the brooding over the loss of the title to Willie Ritchie.

Much has been written about his fight with Battling Nelson, but the story of that famous battle is always interesting reading for the fight enthusiast. I didn't see that contest but I have before me the report of Charles F. Mathison, my boxing critic of the 'New York Press' who was sent out to cover it for our paper. Describing the forty round thriller, here is what Mathison wrote:

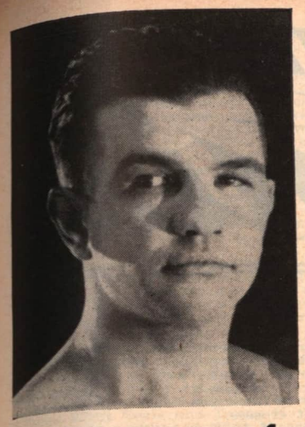
"Nelson's face was punched out of all semblance to a human countenance and great strawberry blotches around the stomach and hips bore testimony to the merciless battering of Wolgast's fists. Nelson was too feeble to fight on with any hope of success. Wolgast's eyes were snappy, while those of Nelson were lusterless. The Dane had lost all sense of distance and direction and could only fling out his arms in a feeble way.

"The champion was a mere punching bag for the waspish Wolgast and to have allowed the fight to continue would have been to incur the risk of fatality. At the end of even the thirty-fourth round there were cries of 'stop it! Stop it!'

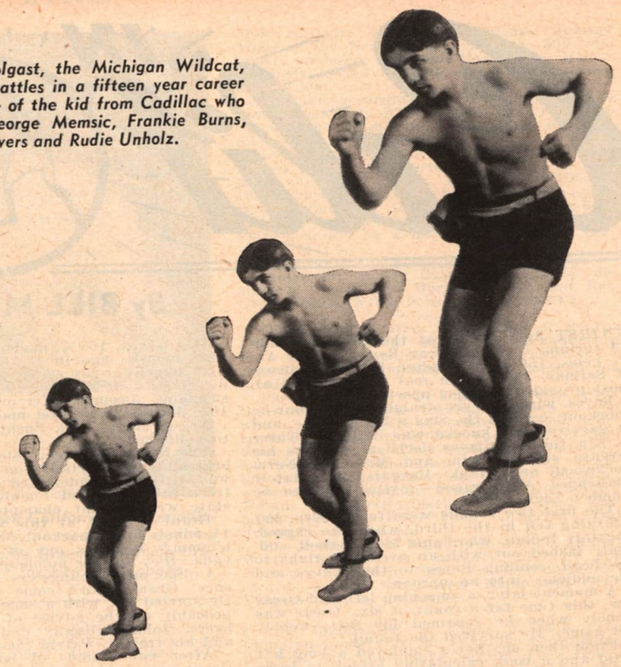
"At the end of the thirty-seventh round Referee Eddie Smith took the champion by the elbow and led him to his corner. There he told Nelson and those handling him that it looked as though all hope was lost and that he thought it would be best for the Durable Dane to give in and quit.

"Nelson shook his fist at the official. 'Never! Never! Never!' shouted the Battler.

"At the beginning of the fortieth round, Nelson put up his arms in a position to fight but the spectacle was pathetic. After he had been smashed full in the face and on the point of the jaw and virtually was helpless, Referee Smith stepped between the two and stopped the fray.



(Left) A closeup of Ad Wolgast, the Michigan Wildcat, who fought many gruelling battles in a fifteen year career and (right) the fighting pose of the kid from Cadillac who stopped such fighters as George Memsic, Frankie Burns, Owen Moran, Joe Rivers and Rudie Unholz.



The story of Ad Wolgast, former world lightweight champion

WILDCAT

'You've taken enough, Bat,' he said. 'I can't let you continue.'

"Thus ended one of the most gruesome, merciless, heart-throbbing, vicious battles I had ever seen in my many years as a sports writer. Wolgast won—but at what price! His head had been terribly battered and bruised. I doubt if he'll ever be himself again. No man can take the punishment meted out to both Wolgast and Nelson and retain his faculties."

• • •

How true was that prediction. Neither ever was the great fighter of that pre-battle period. The beating took plenty out of each.

Two years later, the Michigan Wildcat took another severe trouncing, this time from Willie Ritchie, but unlike the previous battle, he was returned the loser. He lost the lightweight title in the sixteenth round on a foul.

The Michigan Wildcat received a high rating as a light weight from such fistic experts as George Siler, Charley White and Ed Smith—three of the greatest referees in American ring history. Likewise from such sports scribes as Damon Runyon, Bill McGeehan and Bill Naughton, a trio of our outstanding reporters.

McGeehan, writing about Wolgast on the day when the report of his breakdown was published, stated that in his opinion the Michigan Wildcat ranked with George Kid Lavigne and Joe Gans as the best men the division ever had. He went on to state that while Benny Leonard has been listed often alongside Gans, the New York Hebrew could not make the weight, never did make the lightweight limit for a title fight and that the weight limit had to be raised from 133 to 135 pounds in order to give Leonard an opportunity to fight as a lightweight.

• • •

That opinion of McGeehan is shared by many, yet the fact remains that though Wolgast was a terrific puncher and a game, two-fisted fighter, he couldn't compare to Leonard in all-around ability. Wolgast was an entirely different sort of boxer than either Gans or Leonard. He was a swinging fighter and that he made a success of his style against straight hitting lightweights, attested his punching ability and his stamina.

His great fight with Nelson for the championship is an epic of ring lore. His two bouts with Knockout Brown set New York on its ears.

But of all his stirring contests, the two that have stood out and have taken a place in ring history are the fights with Nelson and Joe Rivers. The former, a brutal, inhuman brawl already described, made wrecks of both Nelson and Wolgast. The latter, is the one that is always described as the "most famous double knockout" in ring history.

In his day, Ad was regarded almost with reverence by ring addicts who thought that courage was the first and final equipment needed by a fighter. He possessed courage to the highest degree. He could take unlimited punishment yet come on to win. He seldom took a backward step.

It was his courage that enabled him to win the crown from Battling Nelson. In that battle he stood toe-to-toe exchanging blow for blow with the Durable Dane.

He was a shock absorber who eventually paid dearly for his ring bravery—an altogether too high a price. He showed the effects of the head beatings he took shortly after that fight for in almost every subsequent battle he fouled frequently. He couldn't control his punches.

It was one of those fouls, striking Willie Ritchie low, that cost Ad his title. They came no gamer than the Michigan Wildcat, but what did that extraordinary gameness get him?

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Following the Nelson victory, Wolgast fought no decision bouts with George Memsic, Freddie Cole, Tommy McFarland and Jack Redmond and then in 1911, the following year, he tackled such worthies as Owen Moran, One Round Hogan, Frankie Burns and George Memsic, scoring knockouts over each.

Then came his memorable battle with Mexican Joe Rivers, one of the most criticized battles of all time.

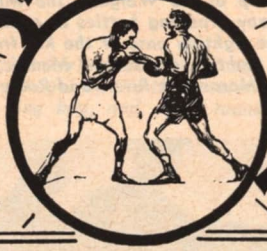
The pair had fought twelve furious rounds with little to choose between them on that hot Independence Day, 1912. Then came the thirteenth, a round in which each landed simultaneously and they both hit the canvas.

Referee Jack Welch could have declared the decision a double knockout, but he chose to do otherwise. He held on to Wolgast while counting out Rivers, thus committing a fistic crime such as no other official has ever been guilty of.

The battle has been listed as one of the most dramatic in the history of the division and that is saying much because of the many thrillers that the lightweight class has had. For thrills, sustained suspense, for the gamut of emotions a human can run through in watching two gloved gladiators

(*Continued on page* 48)

IN SUNNY California



By BILL MILLER

FIRST fight of '54 at the Olympic Auditorium, between Oscar Reyes of Los Angeles, 150½ and Indian Frank Skidmore of Salinas, 150, was a real thriller—and almost provided a major upset.

Reyes, winner of six straight in '53, four by knockout, entered the ring a 5-1 favorite, and he survived two knockdowns in Round Three to win the unanimous decision. It was his seventh straight win, and Managers Norm Lockwood and Hank Marquis immediately challenged Art Aragon—invited him to be Number Eight.

The first two rounds were fairly even, but lightning fell in the third, when the rugged, ungainly Indian, who fights from a shell, suddenly lashed out with an overhand right to the head, sending Reyes to the canvas and the audience into an uproar.

A moment later, a smashing left laid Oscar low, this time for a count of six. Oscar was wobbly when he regained his feet—wobbly but game. He survived the round.

From then on, Reyes employed a long left hand and a cool, calculating attack to baffle Skidmore. The Indian was hampered by a gash over his right eye—allegedly from a butt, suffered in the second round. Oscar jabbed and side-stepped, kept Skidmore at arm's length, and went on to annex the unanimous verdict.

Here's how the score-cards read: Referee Reg Gillmore, 56-54; Judge Dynamite Jackson, 55½-54½; Judge Charley Randolph, 57-53.

A rematch is in order—unless Golden Boy Art Aragon decides to accept Reyes' challenge. An Aragon-Reyes scrap would pack 'em in, and would certainly provide fireworks—while it lasted.

All three of Reyes' last fights at the Olympic have been thrillers; his 7-round knockout over colorful Vinnie De Carlo, his 7-round knockout over Lou Gage, and the Skidmore scrap.

In the six-round semi, Big Bob Albright, 208, who has won seven of his eight pro fights, was held to a "technical" draw, Round One, in his meeting with Bob Sherman, 200. Sherman suffered a gashed left eye, caused by an accidental butt.

The fours: Jimmy Ingram, 179, decisioned Lonnie Malone, 173; Tommy Chalk, 141, scored a 3-round TKO over Clyde Wagner, 139; Ruben Picazo, 121¾, decisioned Billy Bevil, 120½, and Jerry "Dutch" Fowler, 148, managed by the well-known veteran Whitey Ekwert, won his first pro fight impressively, defeating Satchel Porter, 153.

Everyone hopes, but nobody believes, that this managerial war in Southern California comes to a close in the near future. Even an armistice would be welcomed. Both factions profess to be willing to arbitrate: maybe the United Nations could bring 'em together. Quien sabe?

Meanwhile, anyone desiring information about Southern California boxing can address the writer, Bill Miller, 728 South Curson Ave., Los Angeles 36. Enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope.

And a happy, if somewhat belated, 1954 to all you guys I've met in the past 35 years of affiliation with boxing, in one capacity or another. (Gevalt! I'm getting to be an A.K.)

Making his second appearance as a main eventer, classy Neal Rivers, 151, formerly of Buffalo, fattened his prestige by scoring an impressive 2-round knockout over Ernie Greer, 148, Oakland, at South Gate Arena. It was the first fight of '54 in that club.

Rivers, former national amateur champ, managed by Norman Lockwood, has dropped only one duke as a pro: that was his first main event, when he was out-foxed by cagey Esau Ferdinand, former state middleweight kingpin.

In the six-round semi, Billy Hartman, 144, decisioned Sonny Green, 149. The fours: Al (Clown) Moore, 133, 3rd round "technical" decision over Danny Donohue, 138; Al Williams, 154½, decisioned Willie Robinson, 158; and Frankie Cockrell, 145, decisioned Aaron Junior, 142½.

Don Grant, 165½, made his pro debut only nine months ago in a four-rounder; in his 11th punch-for-pay scrap, at the Olympic Auditorium, final show of 1953, Grant scored a smashing 5-round TKO over Jesse Fuentes, 163. It was Don's first main event.

Yessir, Grant took Fuentes just like Grant took Richmond.

The rangy, clean-cut colored lad, who celebrates his 21st birthday on January 28, 1954, was untied and undefeated; hence a 2-1 favorite over the rugged Fuentes, brother of the state welterweight champion Ramon.

Grant's record, at this writing: 11 fights, 11 wins; 7 by knockout. Seven and eleven; h'mmm! Reminds one of Lost Wages, Nevada; they are fine numbers to come out with.

Unlike most youngsters of limited experience, Grant didn't come out head-hunting. He started out with a smashing body attack, probably on the advice of his capable managers, John Calloway and Duke Holloway, and his trainer, Calvin Coolidge Woods.

After two rounds of body bombardment, Grant raised his sights and went after Fuentes' head. In Round Three, he dropped Jesse for a nine-count; in Round Five, he dropped hism again—twice. The second time Fuentes went into the ropes, managed to extricate himself at the count of six. But it was obvious that the fight was over. Referee Mushy Callahan stopped the fight.

A clean-living, gentlemanly, soft-spoken lad is Grant, and there's no telling how high he'll climb. He has the stuff.

Ruben Salazar, 130, scored a tight-fit split-decision duke over Billy Evans in the six-round semi—a great scrap.

The four-rounders: Tommy Chalk, 141, decisioned Indian Ray Fields, 139; Ozzie Hubbard, 202½, decisioned Jimmy Ingram, 159; Clyde Wagner, 141, decisioned Henry Johnson, 141; and Frankie Cockrell, 148, decisioned Aaron Junior, 142.

Charley Sawyer, 153, who has a frozen phiz but red-hot mitts, scored his third straight kayo at Hollywood Legion Stadium, at the expense of Roy Daniels, 152, after 25 seconds of Round Nine.

Sawyer entered the ring a 4-1 favorite, and lived up to that installation. Daniels had previously been defeated in a six-rounder by Rudy Martinez.

There is now talk of matching Sawyer with Charley Green or Willie Vaughn, hero of the upset of the year at Filmville arena. Vaughn, 10-1 underdog, recently wrested the state middleweight crown from Charley Green.

Candy Lopez (122½, southpaw socker, scored a 5-round TKO over Art Hester, 123½, in the semi-final, scheduled for six.

Frankie Campos, 115, floored Johnny Gonzalez, 118, twice, and registered a 2-round TKO in the special event.

The fours: Joe Cardenas, 154, decisioned Aaron Yarko, 152; and Johnny Noriega, 147, TKO 4 over Eli Flores, 147½.

In the first fight of 1954 at Hollywood Legion Stadium, the veteran Cecil Schoonmaker, 120, repeated his former triumph over Jimmy Quinn, 117, by unanimous decision. About a month ago, Schoonmaker, 2-1 underdog, scored an 8-round TKO over Quinn.

Despite the defeat, Quinn was again favored over Cecil.

Dutch Culbertson, 192½, former main eventer, suffered a humiliating defeat at the hands of little-known Jimmy Sheets, 183, of Wilmington, in the six-round semi. In another six, Carlos Comacho, 151½, won a split verdict over Marco Polo, 156.

The fours: Eddie Sims, 156½, KO 2 over Art Brown, 155; and Joey Cardenas, 153, scored a 2-round TKO over Wayne Graham, 147, in the opener.

"Fighter of the Year" in Southern California?

I nominate Cisco Andrade, the Compton Comet—undefeated in 19 pro starts, eleven of which he won by knockout.

This boy has a left hand that's reminiscent of Sammy Mandell's—than whom there was no whomer in the manipulation of his larboard duke. He plays a rat-tat-tat on the phiz of his foe, sometimes scoring eight or ten punches in rapid-fire order before the opposition can counter with one.

Don't get the idea that he's a one-handed guy; most of those knockouts were racked up with right crosses.

The close of 1953 finds Cisco high on the roster of California lightweights—a roster that includes such gents as Johnny Gonsalvez, Eddie Chavez and Henry Davis, which is pretty select company. Chavez was listed No. 2, Gonsalvez No. 5 by Nat Fleischer in the February issue of boxing's bible—The Ring.

Don't be misled by that "19 pro fights"—or should I say "them 19 pro fights?"

True, that's all Cisco has had as a pro. But he did a lot of amateur boxing before he enlisted in the army, in 1948, engaged in about 40 bouts. As a soldier, he had about 98 scraps. Of these 138 simon-pure bouts, he won 133, lost 5; and he has newspaper clippings denouncing three of these five defeats as robberies. I'll go along with that.

A handsome, clean-cut lad of exceptional intelligence, Cisco rose to staff sergeant in the army; was boxing instructor at Ford Ord, and Post P. T. instructor at Camp Irwin.

It's no secret that Matchmaker Babe McCoy is so high on this lad that he's considering a match with Jimmy Carter for Cisco.

A few months ago, such a suggestion would have given Manager Ralph Gambina, who pilots Andrade, ulcers. Cicso is the apple of Ralph's bloodshot eye. But today, Signor Gambina, like Barkis, is willin'.

Another Californian, Fidel La Barba, defeated Frankie Genaro for the flyweight title in his 11th pro fight, and Genaro was a pretty fair country fighter. I'd like to have one of his pups.

Ludwig Lightburn, a product of the British West Indies, 137½, made a very successful California debut at South Gate Arena by scoring a 5-round knockout over Denver Joe Fisher, 143.

It was an impressive introduction. Ludie had won several fights out-of-town, looked good in his gym workouts and was the solid choice. He lived up to that installation.

In Juarez and Texas rings, Lightburn had won five, four by knockout; his American score, therefore, is six fights, six wins, five by kayo. Angels could do no more.

Ludie is managed by Silent Joe Stanley, who also handled North American banty boss, Billy Peacock.

There was a very great fighter who came out of the West Indies, many long years ago: Joe Walcott, the Barbados Demon. In 1900, Walcott a welter, stopped Joe Choynski in the 7th heat—the same Choynski who had boxed a 20-round draw with James J. Jeffries, and who was destined, one year later, to register a 3-round knockout over a young heavyweight from Galveston named Jack Johnson.

It's a compliment to Ludwig to be mentioned in the same breath with Walcott.

In the six-round semi, Jimmy Roybal, 127, boxed a draw with Gil Velarde, 127; Velarde suffered a broken hand in this one.

The fours: Ruben Picazo, 123, decisioned Epifanio Martinez, 120; Russ Gillam, 157, decisioned Eddie Williams, 152; and Al Williams, 152, decisioned Willie Robinson, 157.

A large California audience witnessed the Lulu Perez-Dave Gallardo fight in Madison Square Garden on New Year's day—via TV Maybe we're prejudiced, but it seems that Referee Ruby Goldstein favored Perez overmuch. Perez did the holding, but Ruby seemed to blame Gallardo for it.

Maybe Ruby has never forgiven nor forgotten that unruly, shaggy-haired Westerner named Ace Hudkins who knocked him loose from his undefeated record back in the summer of '26. And so he takes it out on other Westerners. T'ain't nice, Ruby; time heals all wounds. Why make Gallardo pay for Hudkins's sins—

Billy (Sweet Pea) Peacock, 120½, North American bantam champ, came with a rush in the closing rounds to score a 9-round TKO over gallant Jesse Mongia, Denver, 120¾, at the Olympic Auditorium.

For a while, it looked as though Billy was headed for one of the prize upsets of '53. Mongia, 4-1 underdog, started with a rush and a roar, and maintained the upper hand throughout the early rounds. At the half-way mark, Jesse was ahead on all scorecards.

Mongia's efforts took their toll, however and in Round Seven, he seemed to be running out of cigarettes. As Johnny Allen of the Daily News put it: "all Mongia needed to unravel another upset was an extra fuel tank."

Round Eight saw Peacock going full steam ahead, though he was penalized one point for a low blow in this heat. The end came in Round Nine, when the exhausted Denver boy, out on his feet, was waved to his corner by Referee Frankie Van.

It was Mongia's first fight under his new managers, Norman Lockwood and Frank Crowley. You haven't heard the last of Jesse.

As for Peacock, he showed the attributes of a champion by his determined rally. It was Billy's twelfth fight of 1953 and his tenth win. The only defeats chalked up against him were registered by Baby Face Gutierrez prior to Peacock's win over Pappy Gault for the American title.

Referee Tommy Hart stopped the semi-final between Kirby Seals and Young Harry Wills with only 38 seconds to go in the sixth and last heat, and called it no decision. Seals got his moolah; Wills' was held up pending a Commission investigation.

The fours: Ray Fields, 141, decisioned Frankie Cockrell, 145; Tommy Chalk, 143, KO (1) over Jimmy Flynn, 144; Al Williams, 153½, decisioned Fred Hawkins, 157; and Willie Escobar, 135; decisioned Cal Crayton, 135.

Babe McCoy, Olympic matchmaker, has offered Jimmy Carruthers, world banty boss, a guarantee of $25,000, to defend his title against Billy Peacock in Los Angeles. Negotiations are still in progress.

Oscar Torres, 122, former state bantam champ, made a Garrison finish to grab a split 10-round verdict over Tony Maiorana, 121, chunky battler from Niles, Ohio, at South Gate Arena.

It was Maiorana's first 10-round bout. He entered the ring a 4-1 underdog. Tony had all the better of the early going, and it looked like another sharp upset was in the making. Both scored with hefty socks, though neither was able to register a knockdown.

Maiorana, like his manager, Frankie Muche, is a student at Pasadena City College. Evidently education pays off, for only a couple of months ago Frankie's pride was boxing in curtain-raisers.

The officials were widely split in their scoring. Referee Mushy Callahan had Maiorana well in front, 57-53; he was outvoted by Judges Joe Stone, 58-52, and Jimmy Wilson, 56-53; they favored Senor Torres.

Pete Janke, 157, looked good in scoring a 2-round kayo over Edgar Jones, 150½, in the semi-final, scheduled for six.

The fours: Ruben Picazo, 122, drew with George Jacquet, 116; Ray Castro, 138½, decisioned Aaron Junior, 140; Ozzie Hubbard, 203, knocked out Joe Haywood, 196, Round One.

My apologies to Buddy Evatt, Jackie McCoy's classy undefeated lightweight. Last month I referred to him as a Texan. Buddy is an Angeleno, and he's rightfully proud of it. Well, Los Angeles is proud of him, too—which makes it a horse apiece.

McCoy, a formful, graceful and talented boxer when he was in there a few years ago, has the knack of instilling knowledge—an invaluable asset. He works patiently with his pupils, and won't turn them loose until he figures they are ready to rattle and roll.

Jackie did a fine job with Babe Vance, who IS from Texas, as well as with Evatt, Jimmy Roybal and Manny Barraza. Incidentally, Roybal, also undefeated, seems headed for the heights.

Men of McCoy's type are a distinct asset to boxing.

In case you're interested, and even if you're not, here's how the Boxing Writers Association rated California fighters for 1953—that's the Southern California Association, of course:

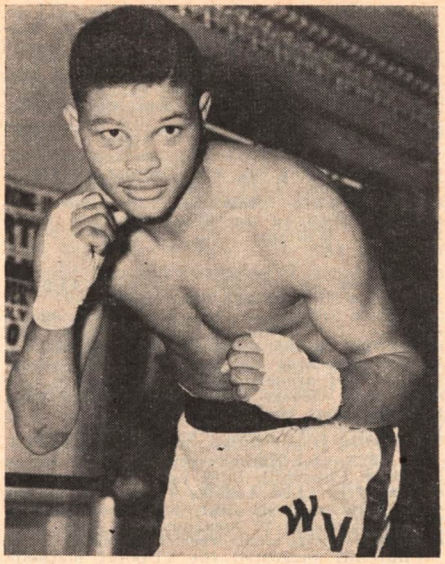
Heavyweights:—Willie Bean, Champion; Leonard Morrow, Harry Wills, Freddie Beshore, John McFalls, Jake Williams, Kirby Seals, Bob Albright.

Light-heavyweights:—Frankie Daniels, Champion; Dick Finley, Sonny Andrews, Bob Dunlap, Don Grant, Bobby Wise.

Middleweights:—Willie Vaughn, Champion; Charley Green, Wes Echols, Petey Servin, Esau Ferdinand, Jesse Fuentes, Bobby Jones, Govan Small, Sal Flores.

Welterweights:—Ramon Fuentes, Champion; Art Aragon, Ramon Tiscareno, Oscar Reyes, Charley Sawyer, Freddie Herman, Vinnie De Carlo, Woody Harper, Chief Whitewater.

Lightweights:—Johnny Gonsalvez, Champion; Eddie Chavez, Henry Davis, Cisco Andrade, Santiago Esteban, Carlos Chavez, Bobby Woods, Doug Kirby.



Willie Vaughn, the new California state middleweight champion. Willie scored a stunning upset in beating Charlie Green to win the title. Green was a 6 to 1 favorite over Vaughn.

Featherweights:—Dave Gallardo, Champion; Gil Cadilli, Al Cruz, Rudy Garcia, Jose Luis Cotero, Bobby Why, Dave Rollins, Vic Ponce, Juan Luis Campos.

Bantamweights:—Baby Face Gutierrez, Champion; Billy Peacock Oscar Torres, Jesse Mongia, Cecil Schoonmaker.

Flyweights:—No champion: Johnny Ortega, Jackie Spurgeon, Frankie Campos, Jimmy Quinn.

Well, in the main, a pretty fair estimate. I don't agree with some of these ratings, which is my privilege as a free-born American.

The January issue of The Ring rates two welters: Ramon Fuentes and Art Aragon; two lightweights: Johnny Gonsalvez and Eddie Chavez; one feather: Dave Gallardo, and one bantam: Billy Peacock, among the world's top ten.

Fabela Chavez, on trial for his professional life, turned in a terrific scrap against Juan Luis Campos, the tonsorial artist, at Hollywood Legion Stadium, but the best he could get was a draw.

Fabela, 128½, former state featherweight champ, had a big edge on Judge Frankie Van's card over Campos, who weighed 129½.

Van tabbed it 58-52; but Referee Reg Gillmore saw it even-Stephen, 55-55; and Judge Lee Grossman also scored it 55-55. The gents of the press favored Chavez.

Prior to the fight, the State Athletic Commission had been on the verge of lifting Fabela's license. The scrap turned in by Fabela assures him of his 1954 "ticket", and it made his many friends very happy. I'm one of them.

It was a rip-roaring battle, with Chavez rolling up a nice margin in the early rounds, and Campos making a strong rally mid-way.

Best evidence of the crowd's reaction was the silver-shower; any time a fan tosses money into the ring, he's enjoyed himself.

In the six-round semi, Vic (Kid) Ponce, 125, had an easy time with Henry Willis, 127½, scoring a knockout in 1:20, first round. Willis was no match for the San Pedro boy.

The fours: Jimmy Sheets, 186½, KO-3 over Beau Jack, 176¼. (Making it Beau Jack-3rd); Ray Greco, 145, decisioned Johnny Noriega, 147¼; and Rudy Coleman, 149, decisioned Aaron Yarko, 152.

Aftermath of that upset scored by Willie Vaughn over state middleweight champ Charley Green: Jerry Ullo, who manages Green, has the promise of a return bout within 60 days typed on his contract, whereas, Charley Gregoli, who manages Vaughn, has a contract with no such proviso.

Evidently the typist didn't see any reason for bothering about the proviso on Vaughn's contract. Undoubtedly, however, they'll get together within the next few months. Vaughn can get more money fighting Green than any other opponent on the horizon. Probably more lumps, too.

An artistic success but a financial flop: that's how the Hollywood Legion Stadium mid-week card, December 16th, can best be described.

A flock of likely youngsters, including undefeated Andy Escobar, Don Jordan and Jake Williams were on the card; they remained undefeated. But the attendance, to put it conservatively, was disappointing; Johnny Allen of the News said there were 500 customers on hand, but John Hall of the Mirror evidently looked through a larger telescope: he saw 800.

The take, according to Cal Whorton of the Times, was only $738, which wasn't enough to pay the gladiators. The show was not televised.

Here's what happened: Andy Escobar, 138, racked up his 12th straight win at the expense of Lavert Smith, 137; Jake Williams, 183½, clowned his way to victory over aging Dutch Culbertson, 192, to make his score 6-0; and 19-year old Don Jordan, 140, made his score-card 8-0 by a decision over Dave Cervantes, 141½.

There wasn't a knockdown all evening.

Supporting bouts: Ray Acosta, 152½, decisioned Sugar Kid Burnett, 155; and Ray Greco, 149, TKO'd Pete Navarette, 142.

The Boxing Writers Association of Southern California went on record as endorsing the current 11-point scoring system, and rejecting the proposed N.B.A. method of tabulation.

The boys went on to make their own selections of the state's leading battlers, a job which the Athletic Commission has sidetracked because there are two warring factions of managers. They named as champions: heavyweight, Willie Bean; light-heavy, Frankie Daniels; middleweight, Willie Vaughn; welterweight, Ramon Fuentes; lightweight, Johnny Gonsalvez; featherweight, Dave Gallardo; bantam, Baby Face Gutierrez; and flyweight, no champ.

The scribes will hold their second annual Boxing Banquet on January 21st at the Hollywood Athletic Club. Two new memorial awards, named for George Blake and Gene Vinassa, will be presented.

Still undefeated is Cisco Andrade, the Compton Comet; at the Olympic Auditorium, he won the unanimous verdict over Bobby Woods of Spokane. It was Cisco's 18th win in 19 pro starts; and eleven of these were won by kayo.

Andrade, 135, is a good right-hand puncher; but in this fight with Woods, who weighed 134½, he concentrated on his left hand. It's one of the best in the business; sharp, accurate, and rapid-fire.

Referee Joe Stone scored it 58-52; Judge Dynamite Jackson, 59-51; Judge Frank Holborow, 57½-52½. There wasn't a dissenting vote in the house, either.

This boy Andrade seems ready for big game—the best in lightweight ranks.

As for Woods, he was defeated but not disgraced. He tossed many a right hand; those that landed inflicted damage, but Andrade can take a punch as well as dish 'em out.

Undefeated—that makes him better than Michigan State; undefeated but tied—that makes him as good as Notre Dame. Do you want a better recommendation?

Loren Pro, 160, registered two knockdowns in scoring a five-round TKO over Spencer Coleman, 157, in the semi-final.

The fours: Henry Johnson, 142, TKO-1 over Ralph Cheek, 142; Satchel Porter, 153, TKO-2 over John Manning; Bobby Robles, 129, decisioned Emilio Gomez, 127; and Jimmy Flynn, 144½, TKO-3 over Andy Maes.

Mike McNulty, prominent in fight circles for almost half a century, sold Jesse Mongia's contract to Norman Lockwood and Frank Crowley—and they ain't Johnny-come-latelys, either. McNulty's employment at the racetracks prevents him from giving Mongia proper attention. He did a good job with Mongia.

Old-timers will remember that McNulty managed Kewpie Ertle, Roger Bernard and other topnotchers.

Ramon Tiscareno, 143, the 20-year old father of three, climbed another rung up the ladder of popularity when he scored a not-unexpected six-round TKO over Chu Chu Jiminez, 142, at South Gate Arena.

It was rugged Ramon's seventh win in eight starts this year. He had a solid edge on points going into the sixth, and when he opened a deep gash over Chu Chu's eye in that round, Referee Lee Grossman stopped the fight.

In the six-round semi, Armando Muniz, 138, survived two knockdowns in the first round to win a split decision over Billy Hartman, 140.

The fours: Ozzie Hubbard, 204, decisioned Cal Chambers, 197½; Clyde Wagner, 142, decisioned Duke Chronister, 141½; Jimmy Ingram, 177, decisioned Henry Taylor, 174½.

There was quite a mish-mash up in San Francisco over the outcome of the Ezzard Charles-Coley Wallace fight. Referee Frankie Brown stopped hostilities in the 10th, with seconds to go, after Wallace had been downed twice in that round.

Referee Brown said it was a knockout; Chief Inspector Willie Ritchie stated that inasmuch as there was no count, it was a

IN SUNNY CALIFORNIA

Technical kayo. Technical, shmecknical; what's the odds? In my book a kayo is a kayo.

Anyway, the fight, nationally televised, did $17,000. net. In addition to his p/c of the gate receipts, Ezzard got five G's from the TV people.

And in Sacramento, the night before the Charles-Wallace affray, Art (Golden Boy) Aragon, 147, scored a 10th round kayo over Art Soto, 147, Oakland. Eye-witnesses state that Aragon had a big margin going into the 10th; one judge, however, had Soto ahead by one point going into the last heat. The end came with 2:47 elapsed in the round.

Soto made a surprisingly good showing. The Golden Boy, figuring on a quick kayo, hadn't extended himself in training. One of these days,—as Jackie Gleason says—one of these days!!!

Major upset of the year in Sunny Southern Cal took place at Hollywood Legion Stadium the night Willie Vaughn, 159, a 10-1 underdog, snatched the state middleweight title from Charley (Chiller) Green, 159.

The newspaper laddies were completely flabbergasted, and their stories the following day reflected the flabbergast. (What? You don't know what flabbergast is? Neither do I.)

Johnny Allen of the Daily News, in his advance story, was something of a prophet of doom: he wrote: "One thing that could boomerang on Green tonight is the setups he's been fighting lately. Green hasn't had a tough bout since he regained the state title from Esau Ferdinand last July 11".

That was true, brother, true: Green, in three recent fights, faced Edward Smith, a Chicago importation; 34-year old Watson Jones, and Oakland's Charley Cato, a gent who had lost 23 of his last 31 fights, eight of them by knockout. All hit the showers in Round Three—par for the course.

While I, personally, don't put in with those 10-1 odds on ANY fight, it seemed that Green merited his installation as top-heavy choice over Vaughn. Willie had been knocked out by Dick Finley, and Green had flattened Finley: so-o-o-o?

It didn't work out that way. Green has spotty spells; he fought below his level, and Vaughn 'way above his head. Moreover, Green was handicapped by an eye shut tight in the 5th. Atop of everything, Green twice dropped Vaughn: once in the first, again in the seventh. A rematch is in order; and you may be sure that Green, despite defeat, will again be the top-heavy choice.

Charley Sawyer, 153½, sent Earl Turner, 159, back into retirement. Charley gave Turner a terrific lacing; the fight was stopped in the 5th round of a scheduled 10-rounder. The 33-year old Earl of Richmond announced his permanent retirement.

Prelims: Dave Cervantes, 145, KO 2 over Eddie Johnson, 143, Amado Martinez, 139, drew with Ray Serna, 140½, and Baby Sal, 148½, decisioned Ray Greco, 145½.

As bloody and bitter a brawl as these old eyes have seen in many a long moon was the 12-rounder at the Olympic Auditorium between Al Cruz, 124½, and Rudy Garcia, 126, with Cruz winning a split decision.

The scrap was billed as a featherweight elimination, with the winner earning the right to meet Dave Gallardo for the state championship. Should Gallardo refuse, which seems likely in view of his Eastern commitments, Cruz gets No. 1 recognition by the Commission.

Cruz had five cuts on his phiz, two over each eye, one on the schnozz; Garcia had only two cuts, one over each eye. (Did I say "only?")

Here is how the ring officials scored it: Referee Charley Randolph, 70-61, Cruz; Judge Lee Grossman, 66-65, Garcia; Judge Frankie Van, 66-65, Cruz. Garcia was penalized one point for an accidental butt in Round Three.

The scribes saw it this way: Cal Whorton of the Times, Garcia by four; Johnny Allen of the News, Garcia by one; George Main of the Herald-Express, Garcia by two; Mort Moss of the Examiner, Garcia by two; John Hall of the Mirror didn't score it.

It was Randolph's tally which aroused the ire of the gents of the press. Mort Moss wrote that Al Cruz' eyes were in bad condition, "but there is no doubt", he added, "that the eyes of Referee Charley Randolph were in far worse condition than those of either of the battlers."

George Main was also vehement in his condemnation; he wrote that Randolph "turned in the most ridiculous card of the year when he had Cruz in front 70-61—nine points!"

Anyway, it was a rip-roaring shindig, definitely worthy of a rematch as soon as the gladiators heal. And that will take some time, friends and neighbors.

We Californians think a lot of our 11-point system of scoring,—imported from Australia, via the Philippine Islands,—but NO system is infallible so long as men are fallible. That applies in Los Angeles as well as New York, New Haven, Hartford, Timbuctoo and Zamboanga.

In the six-round semi, Sec Gonzalez, 124, drew with Billy Evans, 128; the fours: Bob Albright, 209, pursued his winning ways by stopping Bull Brown, 180½, in the second heat; Buddy Evatt, 135, the apple of Jackie McCoy's limpid blue eye, racked up his eleventh straight win, a 3rd round TKO over Andy Ramos, 131; Jimmy Roybal, 129, trounced Willie Crawford, 132—nine wins and one draw in ten fights for this classy kid; Al Williams, 150½, duked Frank Crockett, 157.

A word about this California 11-point system: well, maybe a few words.

Back in 1920, when this writer was sports editor of the Manila Daily Bulletin, we had a lot of trouble with referee's decisions. Frank Churchill, the promoter, with whom I was later associated for many years, got a tip from George Baillieu, Australian fight manager, that the 11-point system had met with widespread approval Down Under.

We tried it out in Manila; it worked fine.

In 1925, at a dinner party in Los Angeles at which Churchill, Paul Lowry, then sports editor of the Los Angeles Times and myself were present (with our wives, of course) Lowry happened to mention that fans were disgruntled with some recent decisions.

Churchill suggested the 11-point method; Lowry thought he'd try it. Later, Paul told Referee Abe Roth, then and now one of our top arbiters, about the Australian system. Roth adopted it, and did so well that after a few years it became the official California scoring method. So far as I'm concerned, it tops anything else in the land, but maybe I'm prejudiced because I was there when it was "born". Very seldom do two men see a close fight alike. Those who don't agree with thee and me are either cock-eyed or prejudiced. Or both.

Oscar Torres, 123½, former California bantam champ, scored a 6-round TKO over Tommy Umeda, 122, the "Go For Broke" kid, in the main event at South Gate Arena.

Torres was in top form and had the edge in every round. But the rugged, courageous Japanese boy refused to go down; it was Umeda's manager, Sparky Rudolph, who asked the referee to stop the fight.

Undefeated Zora Folley, 178½, registered an impressive 2-round knockout over Lonnie Malone, 178, in the semi-final, scheduled for six. It was Folley's fourth straight triumph; tab this boy as a comer.

The fours: Duke Chronister, 143, decisioned Andy Maes, 146; Jimmy Ingram, 178½, decisioned Henry Taylor, 174; and Fred Hawkins, 158½, duked Kenny Hanson, 156½.

Hard-hitting Dick Finley, 167½, 2-1 underdog, scored a four-round TKO over Sonny Andrews, 171½, in the main event at Hollywood Legion Stadium. It was sweet vengeance for Finley; a month earlier, Andrews had won by TKO in the 4th over Dick.

Finley outboxed and outpunched his heavier rival, opened a deep gash over Sonny's right eye.

In the six-round semi-final, Rudy Martinez, 150½, won a split decision over Roy Daniels, 150½. It was a thriller all the way. In another six, Ray Acosta, 152, scored a one-round kayo over Bobby Taylor, 151½.

The fours: Marco Polo, 155, KO 1 over Joey Cardenas, 157½; Harvey Taylor, 168½, TKO 3 over Bill Halsey, 169; Jerry Holman, 166½, decisioned Augie Diaz, 164; and Johnny Noriega, 147½, drew with Ruby Coleman, 147½.

THE MICHIGAN WILDCAT

(*Continued from page* 45)

belt each other all over the ring, the contest often has been compared to the fights in which Jack Dempsey stopped Willard and Firpo.

They were two youthful figures, perfect in their animal vigor, one tawny by nature, the other ruddy from exposure, fighting with the tenacity of jungle cats, when suddenly, a flurry of blows, and both men sank to the ring floor at the same time, the dark figure first and the champion on top of him. Rivers claimed that the punch that put him down was foul but Welch ignored his protest and counted.

Rivers describing what had happened in that round, in an interview with the press said:

"At the count of six, I was resting on my knees and at eight, I leaped up and was on my feet. The bell sounded at eight but apparently Welch didn't hear it for he continued to count to ten without noticing me and while holding up Wolgast who couldn't stand because he was out on his feet. Yet, Welch declared him the winner. Remember, he had counted only eight when the round officially ended but he went right on counting."

And so ends the story of a ring epic, one of the few double knockdowns in ring history.

BROADCASTS FROM NEW YORK

(*Continued from page* 43)

boxed the lanky Sandy, but repeatedly jolted him with left hooks to the jaw and straight rights to the body. The most significant feature of Cartier's showing was his ability to beat Sandy at his own specialty, jabbing. There were no knockdowns, but Sandy was wrestled to the canvas in the second. Both boys were cut during the battle, Cartier suffering gashes on both eyebrows, while Sandy bled from his nose and a rip above his right eye. Marvin Dick, 139¼, Brooklyn, was too clever for willing but crude Jacques Julien, 140¾, France, in the semi-final six. Clem Florio, 161, Ozone Park, had the better of Cobey McCluskey, 154½, Nova Scotia, in another six. In fours, Cliff Hess, 175, Bronx, won from Bill Coffey, 203, Bronx; Jimmy Armstrong, 128, Philadelphia, grabbed the decision from Julie Felice, 129¾, Brooklyn, and Felix Montenegro, 138, France, bustled his way to a verdict over Braxton Reed, 133¼, Harlem.

Outclassing his crude opponent from the start, Joey Giardello, 160, Philadelphia, needed less than five full rounds to polish off Garth Panter, 161, Salt Lake City, in a lop-sided affair in Madison Square Garden. Panter was willing, and charged in persistently, but willingness and aggressiveness alone weren't enough, and Giardello found the lumbering Utahan an easy target for anything he threw—left jabs and hooks, straight rights, uppercuts, and combinations to the head and body. The battering seemed to have no serious effect on Panter for four rounds, and he continued to pile in, but he suddenly wilted in the fifth, and a left hook and looping right to the face sent him reeling to the ropes. Giardello lost no time following up his advantage. He smashed two more rights to the jaw, and Panter stumbled back again. Another right sent him careening into the ropes. At this point Referee Al Berl called a halt. Time of round: 1:16. In sixes, Libby Manzo, 134½, Elmhurst, outslugged Jose Morell, 134, Puerto Rico; Al Robbins, 147½, Portsmouth, Va., won from Eddie Prince, 150, Poughkeepsie; Ike Chestnut, 125½, Harlem, decisioned Al Tisi, 124½, East Side, and Ike Jenkins, 147½, Harlem, stopped Jay Anderson, 147½, Philadelphia, at 1:29 of the fourth. In fours, Artie Thelemaque, 146, Long Island City, drew with Bobby Dalton, 146, Hartford, and Coby McCluskey, 150½, Nova Scotia, won from Paulie Griffin, 146½, Brooklyn. Attendance, 3,560; gross gate $9,417.

With a busy, bustling style, Al Andrews, 150½, Superior, Wis., celebrated his local debut by swarming all over Joey Klein, 149½, East Side, for an easy decision in a lively ten at Eastern Parkway. A tireless operative, who tosses punches every second he is in there, Andrews didn't give Klein a chance to get going. He was all over Joey from the start, throwing fists in wholesale lots, and the East Sider seemed quite bewildered by it all. Bob Provizzi, 156, Corona, punched his way to a decision over Phil Rizzo, 159, Brooklyn, in the semi-final eight. In sixes, Calbin Davis, 147, Long Island City, drew with Gene Johns, 150, Harlem, and Tom Marsisana, 144, East Side, also split the honors with Paul Kospopoules, 148, Baltimore. In fours, Vito Iacobellis, 146, Long Island City, won from Tom Beaudro, 148, Coney Island, and Craig Orland, 145½, East Side, posted the first knockout scored at the club in four weeks by stopping Walter Kapa, 148, Brooklyn, at :56 of the fourth.

For the latest news, complete photo coverage and expert opinions—read The Ring.

DOES BOBO FEAR THE HAWK?

(*Continued from page 5*)

Root had outgrown the middleweight division, but was not big enough for a heavyweight group dominated by the big and burly Jim Jeffries.

So Houseman created the light heavyweight championship, which celebrated its half century anniversary in 1953 with Archie Moore's achievement of the title from Joey Maxim.

The move of the welters into the 160 pound ranks is not analagous to that of the upward trend of the light heavyweights.

However, the welter class is not one of our old, basic divisions of professional boxing.

Until 1880, we had bantams, featherS, lightweights, middleweights, and heavyweights. It was not unusual for middleweights to fight heavies. Certainly Kid McCoy and Joe Walcott did plenty of that.

IN 1880, Paddy Duffy, too big for the the lightweights, too small for the middleweights, announced himself as the 142 pound champion. Thus was born the welter division. Not long thereafter, the limit was lifted to 145 pounds, eventually to 147.

It is amazing how meagre our boxing history is, when we trace championships other than the heavyweight to their American beginnings.

Who was Paddy Duffy? Whom did he beat, and who beat him? Whence did he blossom forth?

We do know that he got too heavy for the class, and quit the title. If he ever fought as a middleweight, his record has not rung any bells through the corridors of Time.

The first welters of any historic repute in this country were Mysterious Billy Smith and Danny Needham. They helped to establish the division, in 1892, with a contest in which the Mysterious One, a remarkable boxer, stopped Danny in fourteen rounds, in San Francisco.

Then came Tommy Ryan, a truly great fighter, to whip Smith, and Kid McCoy to stop Ryan. Both the Kid and Tommy used the welter class as only a brief stopping place. They got too heavy, so Smith regained the title by processes of nature, only to lose it again, this time to Rube Ferns.

And so we roll along the highway of time among the welters. Mike Twin Sullivan won the title, but outgrew it.

On we go, to 1915, and Ted Kid Lewis, of England, a superb boxer.

Then came Jack Britton, to be followed by Mickey Walker, who lost to Pete Latzo, who was beaten by Joe Dundee, who lost to Jackie Fields.

Young Jack Thompson, Tommy Freeman, Lou Brouillard, Young Corbett the third, Jimmy McLarnin, Barney Ross, Henry Armstrong, Fritzie Zivic, Freddy Cochrane, Marty Servo,—all these names are inscribed in the story of the welter title.

This brings us down to December 20, 1946, and the night on which Ray Robinson, for some time rated the real king of the 147 pounders, made it official by beating the flatfooted and unorthodox Tommy Bell, in New York's Garden.

Robinson fought as a welterweight for five years, and then, having begun to experience a lot of trouble making the weight, moved into the middleweight ranks, stopping Jake LaMotta for the 160 pound title.

As we all know, Robinson left the middleweight championship open by quitting the ring for the night club circuit. Before Ray retired he made a sad foray into the light heavyweight ranks, in a most unpleasant encounter with Joey Maxim. Robinson lost to both the heat and the light heavy champion, and in the process of losing, did neither himself nor that class any good.

In any event, Robinson retired, and left the doors wide open for a flock of contenders which, in time, became reduced to four,—Bobo Olson and Paddy Young in this country, and Randy Turpin and Charley Humez, of France.

Bobo eliminated Young here, and Turpin forced Humez out of the picture in London. This sent Turpin to New York for a second adventure, in which he was baffled and beaten by Bobo.

Gavilan gained the American welterweight championship by beating Johnny Bratton in 15 rounds on May 18, 1951, in New York.

Eventually, the Hawk, true name Gerardo Gonzalez, achieved recognition as the world champion, beating Billy Graham, among other good fighters.

Humez's having outgrown the welter class helped to establish the Hawk as world champion.

WITHIN recent months, there has been some talk of Robinson's returning to the ring. This conversation has been traced to Ray and his press agent. True, it has stirred up talk among fight fans, many of whom are intrigued by the possibilities of the situation.

However, the International Boxing Club has not asked Robinson to come out of his self imposed retirement. It has not offered him a match with Olson or anybody else, it has no desire to see Ray return to action, and it would not, in any event, offer within $125,000 of the dough Robinson is reported to have mentioned in the press notices.

● ● ●

The situation between Olson and Gavilan is somewhat reminiscent of the one which developed after Robinson had become the welterweight champion.

In 1947, there were rumblings of a match between Ray and Rocky Graziano, who had knocked out Tony Zale in six rounds. However, much as Rocky was durable, his lack of science discouraged any goings on with the clever Sugar Ray.

Robinson's middleweight aspirations and financial plottings continued as Zale knocked out Graziano, Marcel Cerdan knocked out Zale, and Jake LaMotta, Robinson's old rival, stopped the Frenchman.

The rivalry between Robinson and La Motta never was what you might call the genteel kind. It was loaded with animus on both sides.

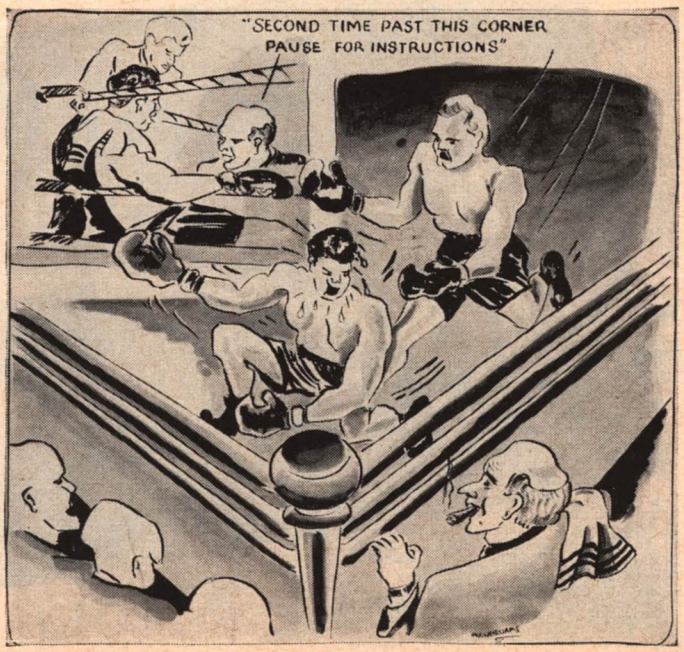
Ray and Jake began to pummel each other in 1942 and their six meetings never failed to produce plenty of action, the kind of struggle you associate with that ancient and now almost obsolete classic known as the grudge fight.

Jake and Ray never were without a grudge against each other, and even now, both retired, they scarcely are bosom pals.

There is no grudge between Olson and Gavilan. They never have met.

But there is the bright gleam of ambition and determination in the Hawk's eye, and there is the powerful plan to cash in, at last, on his ring career, in the brain of Bobo.

Does Bobo fear the Hawk? It's the big ring question of 1954.

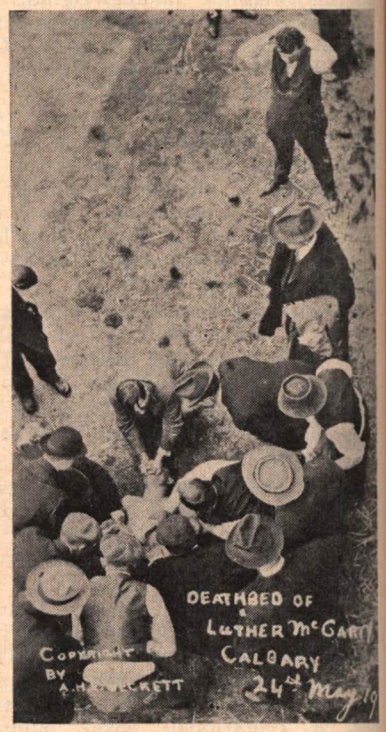


"Better throw in the towel, I don't think I'll be round this way again."

Old Timer's Album

Hail, Hail, the Old Gang's Here!—Champions of bygone eras get together for big charity show in Los Angeles. Left to right—Jimmy McLarnin (welterweight), Barney Ross (lightweight and welterweight), Henry Armstrong (featherweight, lightweight and welterweight), Baby Arizmendi (featherweight claimant) and Fidel LaBarba (flyweight).

The penalty of fame for Joe Choynski and Jack Johnson was a siege in the local hoosegow after they fought in Galveston in 1901. Choynski knocked Johnson out in the third round, but the sheriff and his deputies promptly arrested both "culprits" for illegal prizefighting in Texas.



The tragic end of Luther McCarty, best of the "White Hopes", who collapsed in first round of bout with Arthur Pelkey in Calgary, Canada, in 1913. Carried from ring, and laid on straw flooring of arena, McCarty failed to respond to emergency treatment.

One-time popular Boston heavyweight, Jim Maloney, still makes good use of his trusty left arm, but for stopping traffic as he escorts school children across street. Jim is a policeman in Miami, where he has lived since his retirement from ring during the early '30s.

CANADIAN MARITIME NEWS

ERNIE MacKINNON, 139, punched out a unanimous eight round decision over Leroy Jones, 138, of Halifax, in the main go of the Sydney Police Athletic Club on New Year's day.

Bobby Moore of Syndey Mines decisioned Joe Ellsworth of Dominion in four rounds featherweights. Steve Bonaparte shaded Sonny Hill and Roy MacNeil outpointed Nelson McPhee. Young Stewart decisioned John McInnis in the curtain raiser.

Sydney's Mitch Kiswada, 172, and "Pinky" Mitchell, 160, of the R. C. A. F. boxing team battled five furious rounds to a draw.

Gordon Kiley of Sydney, 140, chilled Reg Todd, 144, Vancouver, in round one.

Ernie MacKinnon, 142, stopped John O'Connor of Prince Edward Island in round three.

Woody Reid of Winnipeg decisioned Benny Randall of Sydney in a lightweight fight of four rounds, and Bobby Moore of Sydney Mines decisioned Ivan Kaeuriak in the curtain raiser.

Sorry, nothing to report last month as there were no pro shows in the Maritimes. Manager Alvin A. Naiman informs us that his middleweight contender Rocky Castellani would consider fighting in Canadian rings. All until next month.

Box 107, Sydney, N. S.

GERMAN BOXING DIARY
By J. A. Tree

BOXING in Germany during the Christmas holidays held the public eye with a number of good contests staged. In Berlin on December 27 at the Sportspalast, with Fritz Groetzschel promoting, Hans Stretz drew with Wim Snoek of Holland in eight tough rounds.

Gustave Scholz, who is due in America shortly to campaign under Hymie Wallman, stopped Viktor D'Haes, weighing 20 pounds heavier, in the third round after dropping the Hollander several times. Otto Niespel, the referee, halted the contest.

Willi Besmanoff (Berlin) KOed Jean Serres (Lux) in 4 heat. Serres took five counts, and had to give up when it was found that his jaw was broken. (Light-heavyweights)

Ernst Zetzmann (Berlin) KOed Hilderson (Lux) in two rounds. (Welterweight)

Al Mobley (USA) outpointed Heinz Sanger (Breslau) in a six round middle contest.

Joachim Borowski (Berlin) outpointed Robert Gaffron, a fellow German, in a six round welter bout.

At KÖLN. Dec. 27—Dieter Hucks (Moers) making a come-back, beat Bruno Junkuhn (Dusseldorf) the latter having to retire with a cut eye in round six.

Don Ellis (USA) shared points with ex-middle champion Peter Mueller (Koeln) in six round middle countest.

Siegfried Burrow (Hamm) weliterweight, KOed Albert Ganser (Koeln) in four rounds.

At WuPPERTAL. Dec. 27—THALIA THEATRE.—Heinz Sachs (Krefeld) ex-light heavy champion, stopped the 20 German pound lighter Mathias Luyten (Rheinhausen) in three rounds.

Welter Emil Koch (Wuppertal) gained a six round KO over Tommy Baars (Holl-Indien). The latter sustained a cut eye.

Middleweight, Leo Starosch (Essen) KOed Hans Schmitz (Neuss) in three rounds.

Welterweight, Ostwald Haast (Wuppertal) outpointed Gunter Chumuntowski (Hamm) over four rounds.

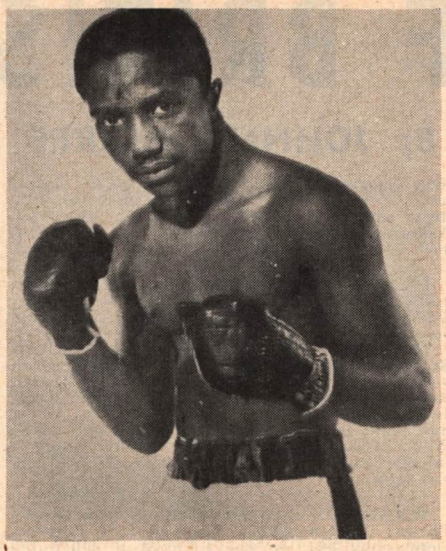
Herbert Escher (Bonn) middle, stopped Heinz Schroder (Krefeld), in three.

Berlin—Gustav Scholz stopped Baby Day of U. S. in three rounds on a card promoted by Joachim Gottert.

Otto Henrich lost on points to Joachim Borowski, a fellow German; Gunter Hase outpointed Erich Pregla, Magdeburg in six; Max Resch, Stuttgart won on points over Hans Obermeier, Berlin. This was Resch's third win as a pro.

Wilyli Besmanoff, Berlin narrowly outpointed Ray Schmit, Lux, in six; Willi Hoeppner, Hamburg, ex-light heavy king, won over Guiliano Pancini, Italy and Ernst Zetzman, Berlin, won on points over Herbert Glaser, Castrop, in six. This was Glaser's first defeat since moving up to the welter class.

At Munich, Franz Leidman promoter—Werner Touscher, Karlsruhe, drew in six with Bruno Bernandinello.



Davey Moore

Winning the National A. A. U. bantamweight title in 1952 was a good start for Davey Moore, of Springfield, Ohio. After representing the United States in the Olympic tournament, he turned pro against the more experienced Dick Armstrong and gave him a sound trouncing. Davey then went on to defeat Terry Book, Ralph Capone, knockout Eddie Hughes and score an 11 second kayo over Eddie Gonzales.

At Chicago's Rainbo Arena, he met Russell Tague, who had been on a 38 bout win streak. Moore decked Tague twice though he lost the sixer. In Grand Rapids, Davey knocked Chili Bean Prado through the ropes and when his opponent was unable to continue due to an injured back caused by loose ropes, the referee called it a no contest affair.

In Dayton, fighting his first main event, he scored a sensational three round kayo over Eddie Cooper. On January 5th, he halted Eddie Crawford, who recently gave Natie Brooks a pasting, in the second round.

Little Davey Moore is a boy to keep your eyes on in 1954.

At Koeln—Frank and Saubert, promoters—Ami, Belgium, lost in eight to Theo Imbsweiler, Frankfort; Genser, Koeln, lost in six to Emil Kock, Wuppertal. Ludwig Petri, Kassel, drew in six with Karl Pinsdorf, Koeln; Peter Mueller, Koeln, won in six from Henry Mino, Belgium and Hans Strelecki, Dortmund, was stopped in two by Hans Friederich, Dortmund.

On December 26 at Kortrijk, Belgium, Albert Mueller of Dusseldorf beat Milo of Belgium in five rounds. The referee disqualified Milo. Gerd Mueller of Dusseldorf stopped Christians of Belgium in seven rounds. Horst Kemena of Dortmund, lost to Kindermanns, of Belgium in six. The bout was stopped with only thirty more seconds to go due to a head injury.

At Delmenhorst on December 27, Hans Baumann of Solingen outpointed Heinz Schreiber of Erfurt, in eight rounds. They are light heavies.

On December 18 at Ghent, Otto Bastian of Westfalen was kayoed by Mel Brown in three rounds.

IN SYRACUSE RINGS
By Billy Shaw

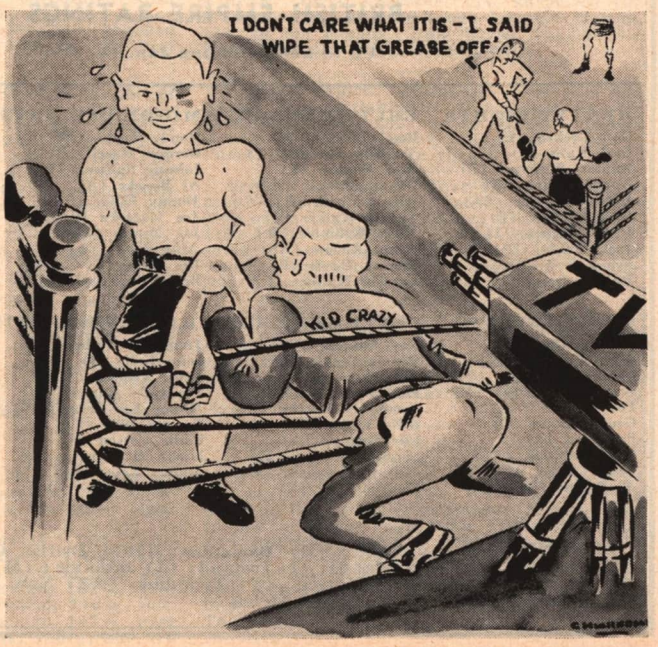
A CROWD of 7,121 paid $30,500 to watch No. 1 welterweight contender Carmen Basilio fight a ten round draw with No. 9 middleweight challenger, Pierre Langlois, of France, at the War Memorial Auditorium. The battle was fiercely fought and both fighters were covered with gore, as the bout ended. The crowd booed the verdict, but to most ringside observers, it appeared fair enough.

Basilio, State welter king, surprised everyone, by weighing 148, only a pound over the welter limit; while Langlois came in at 153½ pounds, much lighter than he was expected to weigh. Before the sensational, slugging Pier 6 fight was over, Langlois was bleeding from cuts under the left eye and blood was streaming from his nose. Basilio, who cuts easily, did not suffer a cut until the ninth heat, but he was flowing copiously from the right eye, through the final frame.

The fight, which was nationally televised, with the Syracuse and Central New York area blacked out, showed Langlois off to a slow start, counter punching Basilio's left leads, but couldn't fathom Carmen's hard rights to the body. Langlois, quoted in some circles an 8 to 5 underdog, found Basilio a dangerous foe. It was give-and-take from the fourth through the tenth with the crowd in a continuous uproar.

Referee Ruby Goldstein, of New York, scored it five rounds for Basilio, four for Langlois and one even. Judge Ted Sheils reversed it, calling it 5-4-1 for Langlois. Judge Jack Kimball, called it dead even, four rounds for each, with 2 rounds even.

Results of the prelims: Mike DeJohn, 198, Syracuse, scored a TKO over Syl Kuchinski, 193, Binghamton, (2); Claude Fortin, 139, Montreal, decisioned Jacques Julien, 138, Paris, (6); Frankie Cowan, 194, Waterville, knocked out Oliver Walker, 201, Syracuse, in (2). Aaron Reynolds, 158, Buffalo, outpointed Bobby Ashley, 156, Massena (4). Eddie Smith, 164, Detroit, scored TKO over Cassel Tate, 161½, Syracuse, (1).



"I warned you about that TV makeup."

NEWS OF BRITISH ISLES

By JOHNNY SHARPE

HARRINGAY ARENA.—Ex-Heavyweight Champion of Great Britain Jack Gardner, Market Harborough, 219½, made a return to the ring after eighteen months retirement, and showed that he has a long hard road to travel if he wishes to recapture his former proud position as king of the British Heavies. Never rated as a master craftsman, but always known to give his absolute best in courage and action, Jack showed against Uber Bacilieri, Italy, 195½, that he was slow and ponderous, and although he took the decision when the referee called a halt in the eighth owing to the Italian lad having suffered a damaged eyebrow, Gardner will certainly have to do much better.

Yolande Pompey, Trinidad, 161¾, enhanced his reputation and took another step toward recognition for world honors when he kayoed Jimmy King, USA, 155½, in the second of a scheduled ten rounds bout. Pompey applied the close in masterful fashion.

Billy "Spider" Kelly, Derry, 127¾, made his debut in London a winning one when he outpointed Hogan Bassey, Nigeria, 127, over eight very exciting rounds. Gordon Hazell, Bristol, 161¾, knocked out Werner Milandri, Italy, 160¾, in the fifth of an eight rounder. Lew Lazar, Aldgate, 147¾, outpointed Jackie Braddock, Manchester, 149¼, over eight. Ron Duncombe, Jersey, 163, caused a mild sensation when he knocked out the highly thought of Terence Murphy, Canning Town, 161, in the fourth. Ron Harman, Brighton, 208, outscored Fred Powell, Walworth, 200½, over six. Harry Ramsden, Brixton, 128, outpointed Johnny Cole, 126½, over eight rounds.

LIVERPOOL STADIUM.—Pat McAteer, Birkenhead, 157, clearly outpointed Richard Armah, Gold Coast, 159½, and thus chalked up his sixteenth consecutive win since turning professional. The bout was over eight rounds and was McAteer's last as a civilian for some time. He reports shortly for service in Her Majesty's Armed Forces.

Tim McLeary, Wrexham, 145, outpointed Ken Regan, Blackpool, 143, over six clever rounds. Leo Molloy, Birkenhead, 138, won from Johnny Delmore, Leeds, 140, over six. Colin Clitheroe, Preston, 113, took a six rounds points decision from Syd Charles, Bolton, 115. Don Martin, Formby, 126, knocked out Albert Davies, Abercynon, 130, in the first round.

NEWCASTLE.—British Lightweight Champion Joe Lucy, Mile End, did not show his best form when outpointing Roy Bennett, Salford, over ten rounds.

Jimmy Croll, Dundee, 146, outpointed Dave Underwood, Plymouth, 145, after eight gruelling rounds. Tommy Mason, Liverpool, 133, notched a six rounder over Bob Hodgson, Seaham Harbour, 132, while Jackie Colpitts, Chopwell, outpointed Brian Jelley, Bury, 135, over another six rounder. Ken Scott, Gateshead, 129, and Charlie Grey, Sunderland, 128, drew over four rounds, and Ernie Martland, Askern, 164, won from Dave Booth, Wallsend, 173, over four rounds.

CAMBRIDGE.—Arthur Hatt, Dagenham, 120½, gave a clever display to outpoint Tommy Purcell, Newmarket, 121½, over six rounds.

Cliff Giles, Linton, 123¼, stopped Albert Stokes, Battersea, 123, in the sixth. Ron Colverstone, Stepney, 126½, stopped Bob Fellow, Romford, 129½, in the first round. Pat Mack, Islington, 148½, stopped Harry Jay, Hackney, 148, in the second session. Fred Balio, West Africa, 155½, won on points over George Danahar, Coulsden, 159, in a lively six rounder.

WEMBLEY TOWN HALL.—Peter Longo, Covent Garden, 161½, stopped Eric Ludlam, Doncaster, 161, in the fifth of a scheduled eight rounder.

Billy Coulter, Woolwich, 147, outpointed Frank Cassidy, Tottenham, 146, over six rounds. Tony Mancini, Notting Hill, 143½, outboxed Bobby Manito, Clapham, 142½, over six rounds. Denny Taylor, High Wycombe, 156½, won from Alf Lay, Chelsea, 157¼, the latter being disqualified in the sixth for alleged butting. Ron Duncombe, Jersey, 162¾, stopped Ronnie Davies, Notting Hill, 157, in the fourth. Reg Fisher, Leyton, 143½, outpointed George Greenwood, Dagenham, 146¾, over six rounds.

CARDIFF.—Roy Agland, Tir-y-Berth, 158, outpointed George Dilkes, South Elmshall, 158½, over eight rounds.

Dave Williams, Welsh Lightheavyweight Champion, 174½, stopped Jim Hockley, Covent Garden, 173½, in the fifth. Dai Dower, Abercynon, 113½, outscored Joe Murphy, Glasgow, 112¾, over six rounds. William Lloyd, Brecon, 135, outpointed Parry Dando, Llanhilleth, 137, over six rounds.

WATFORD.—Paul King, Torquay, 148½, outpointed Alf Danahar, Bethnal Green, 149, in an eight rounds bout.

Leo Maloney, Hillingdon, 148½, outscored Gordon Kearns, Shepherds Bush, 145, over eight. Roy Coles, Weston-Super-Mare, 135½, outpointed Ken Crawley, Portsmouth, 135, over eight. Jim Frew, Watford, 121, stopped Michael Lucy, Shepherds Bush, 117½, in the third session. Johnny Smith, Portsmouth, 174, outpointed Johnny Hall, Dunstable, 180, over six rounds.

LEYTON.—Arthur Howard, Islington, 170½, knocked Ken Rowlands, Luton, 169, clean through the ropes in the second of their scheduled eight rounds bout. Rowlands was unable to get back in time to beat the count.

Billy Andrews, Bethnal Green, 156½, shared an eight rounds bout with Charlie Howe, West Ham, 161½.

Ron Richardson, Canning Town, 142½, outscored Al Sharpe, Belfast, 142½, over six. Billy Edwards, Hornchurch, 163, stopped Ken Hogarth, Luton, 159½, in the fourth. Pat McCarin, Bethnal Green, 131, outpointed Gordon Sparrow, Rushton, 130, over six rounds. Tommy Gillen, Hayes, 121½, stopped Harry Griver, Hackreym, 117½, in the first round.

BLACKPOOL.—Peter King, Manchester, 149, stopped Billy Wells, Gold Coast, 145, in the sixth of a scheduled eight rounder. King punched hard and often and punished his rival severely.

Paul Dunne, Dublin, 119, outpointed Syd Charles, Bolton, 116, over eight rounds. Ken Gregson, Blackpool, 104, knocked out Joe Connors, Southport, 103, in the second round.

LEICESTER.—Les Allen, Bedworth, 161, knocked out Wally Beckett, Carshalton, 162, in the fifth with a peach of a punch to the solar plexus.

Johnny Hudson, Covent Garden, 140, drew with Johnny Mann, Birmingham, 140, over eight rounds. Charlie Simpkins, Birdlington, 128, outpointed Johnny Cole, Beeston, 123, over eight rounds. Bob Gardner, Market Harborough, 199¾, knocked out Bill Robinson, Doncaster, 194, in the second. Eddie Hearn, Battersea, 201, was knocked out by Frank Walker, Warwick, 196¼, in the fourth. Ron Harman, Brighton, 208½, knocked out Len Bennett, Bethnal Green, 211¾, in the second. Ray Jeffs, Doncaster, 153½, outpointed Johnny Griffin, Leicester, 152½, over six rounds.

BLACKPOOL.—Syd Greb, Liverpool, 135, outpointed Bola Lawal, Nigeria, 134, over eight rounds, thus reversing a previous decision that the Nigerian held over him.

Jeff Walters, Scarborough, 138, stopped Tomy Mason, Liverpool, 134, in the fifth. Eric Lord, Bacup, 108, outpointed Ken Gregson, Blackpool, 105, over four rounds. Frank Moran, Birkenhead, 144, outpointed Ron Kilshaw, Blackpool, 140, over six rounds. Johnny Malone, Birkenhead, 124, outscored Charlie Blower, Liverpool, 119, over four rounds.

BLACKPOOL.—There was a sensational ending to the contest between Steve Trainor, Manchester, 128, and Teddy Peckham, Bournemouth, 127, when with only a few seconds to go in their eight rounder, Peckham caught Trainor with a terrific right cross that sent the Mancunian down and out. The count reached "four" before the bell ended the contest, but it still took Trainor's seconds some time to revive him. Then the referee decided that Trainor had been leading in points scored and that the bell had saved him from a kayo defeat, thus leaving him a points winner.

Bola Lawal, Nigeria, 134½, outpointed Syd Greb, Liverpool, 137, over eight rounds. Bob Skinkiss, Manchester, 116, outpointed Cliff Bardsley, Manchester, 113, over four rounds. Roy Johnson, Liverpool, 159, stopped Frankie Rak, Chorley, 161, in the first session. Peter Goldie, Todmorden, 152, stopped Bobby Burns, Manchester, 154, in the third.

BIRMINGHAM.—Tommy Icke, Birmingham, 125½, gained a narrow points win over Laurie McShane, Glasgow, 126¼, after eight evenly contested rounds.

Dai Davies, Sewen, 139¾, drew with Vic Glover, Birmingham, 137½, over eight rounds. Frank Raven, Leamington, 176, notched a six rounds points win over Alf Price, Worcester, 177½. Ernie Maitland, Doncaster, 168, stopped Tommy Hill, Chiswick, 168¾, in the third. Billy Gibson, Doncaster, 117, stopped Billy Baker, Birmingham, 118½, in the first. Bert Donaldson, Birmingham, 139½, outpointed Dennis Cotton, Scotland, 136, over four rounds.

EPSOM.—Freddie Reardon, Downham, 130¾, gained a clear cut points win over Bobby Dodoo, Gold Coast, 128, over eight rounds.

Percy Lewis, Ocford, 125¾, stopped Pat McCoy, Ireland, 128¾, in the fourth. Johnny Reed, Norwood, 162, stopped Joe Odeyemi, West Africa, 161¾, in the sixth. Dennis Reed, Norwood, drew with Ken Bebbington, West Ham, 148¼, over six rounds. Bob Murray, Portsmouth, 135½, stopped Arthur Sullivan, Camberwell, 140¼, in the third. Dennis Bebbington, West Ham, 161, outfought Jack Streek, Sidcup, 155½, over six rounds.

BRITISH EMPIRE RATINGS

Up to and including Jan. 15, 1954

HEAVYWEIGHTS	CRUISERWEIGHTS	MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WELTERWEIGHTS
Don Cockell (E)	Randy Turpin (E)	Randy Turpin (E)	Gerald Dreyer (SA)
Earl Walls (C)	Yolande Pompey (T)	Gordon Hazell (E)	Hector Constance (T)
Johnny Williams (E)	Alex Buxton (E)	Johnny Sullican (E)	Eddie Thomas (SA)
Ansell Adams (T)	Dennis Powell (W)	Al Bourke (A)	Wally Thom (E)
Johnny Arthur (SA)	Albert Finch (E)	Jimmy Elliot (SA)	George Barnes (A)
Jack Gardner (E)	George Walker (E)	Joe Maeseko (SA)	Peter Fallon (E)
Lloyd Barnett (J)	Dave Williams (W)	Joe Munro (SA)	Leslie McKenzie (SA)
Jack Hobbs (E)	Brian Anders (E)	Alfie Sands (A)	Eddie Thomas (W)
Frank Bell (E)	Jimmy Davis (E)	Les Allen (E)	Lew Lazar (E)
Reg Andrews (E)	Gordon Wallace (C)	Bruce Crawford (E)	Barry Brown (NZ)

LIGHTWEIGHTS	FEATHERWEIGHTS	BANTAMWEIGHTS	FLYWEIGHTS
Arthur King (C)	**Roy Ankrah (WA)**	Jimmy Carruthers (A)	Jake Tuli (SA)
Armand Savoie (C)	Ronnie Clayton (E)	John Kelly (I)	Terry Allen (E)
Joe Lucy (E)	Alby Tissong (SA)	Peter Keenan (S)	Eric Marsden (E)
Tommy McGovern (E)	Hogan Bassey (BG)	Fernando Gagnon (C)	Dai Dower (W)
Tony Habib (SA)	Sammy McCarthy (E)	Manny Kid Francis (GC)	Jimmy Pearce (E)
George Dunn (C)	Billy Kelly (I)	Tommy Icke (E)	Vic Herman (S)
Pat Ford (A)	Elly Bennett (A)	Eddie Carson (S)	Taffy Hancock (A)
Ivor Germain (BG)	Sammy Bonnici (M)	Micky O'Sullivan (E)	Marcus Temple (SA)
Solly Cantor (C)	Benny Chocolate (SA)	Jimmy Zale (SA)	Johnny Quinn (S)
Al Brown (BG)	Freddie King (E)	Neville Tetlow (E)	Henry Carpenter (E)

LEGEND—(A) Australia; (B) Barbados; (BG) British Guiana; (C) Canada; (E) England; (F) Fiji Islands; (I) Ireland; (J) Jamaica; (M) Malta; (N) Nigeria; (S) Scotland; (SA) South Africa; (T) Trinidad; (NZ) New Zealand; (W) Wales; (GC) Gold Coast; (WA) West Africa.

YARMOUTH.—Ricky McCulloch, Belfast, 136½, outpointed Stan Skinkiss, Manchester, 136½, over eight rounds.
Len Jarvis, Norwich, 156, outpointed Dudley Cox, Bournemouth, 158, over eight rounds. Johnny Pipe, Beccles, 143½, outpointed Dave Underwood, Plymouth, 143, over six rounds. Bobby Johnson, Plymouth, 151¾, and Billy Coulter, Woolwich, 149, drew over six rounds. George Adams, Beccles, 157½, stopped Ray Routledge, Southampton, 156, in the third. Jimmy Carter, Great Yarmouth, 146½, drew with Del Breen, Croydon, 146½, over six rounds.

LEITH.—Scottish Bantamweight Champion Eddie Carson, Edinburgh, 119¾, stopped Jimmy Brewer, Kings Cross, 119, in the seventh of a scheduled eight rounder. Jackie Abbott, Huddersfield, 169, and Johnny Douglas, Glasgow, 168¾, drew over six rounds. Peter Cain, Dundee, 158½, stopped Terry Dolan, Wakefield, 156, in the fifth. Billy Timmins, Huddersfield, 140¾, outpointed Johnny Skelly, Shipley, 135½, over six rounds.

BELFAST.—Eric Metcalfe, Norwich, 171, outscored Garnett Denny, Belfast, 182¾, over eight rounds.
Jim Doran, Belfast, 148, was knocked out in the second round by Ken Regan, Blackpool, 141.
Jim Fisher, Belfast, 127, outpointed Wally Barkess, Bolton, 130, over eight rounds. Jackie Willis, Lisburn, 129, outpointed Billy Skelly, 121¾, over eight rounds. Johnny Haughey, Lurgan, 134½, stopped Jim Patricks, Belfast, 130, in the second session.

BELFAST.—Sam Thompson, Belfast, 144½, outpointed Joe Toner, Belfast, 149, over six rounds in an always interesting scrap.
Billy Graham, Lisburn, 130¼, outpointed Ken Lavery, Carrickfergus, 128, over six. Terry McManus, Belfast, 114, knocked out Terry Ward, Belfast, 114, in the first round. Louis Rea, Belfast, 122, knocked out Timmy Rooney, Belfast, 121, in the first. Jim Townsley, Belfast, 158¼, outpointed Charlie Boyle, Belfast, 156, over six rounds.

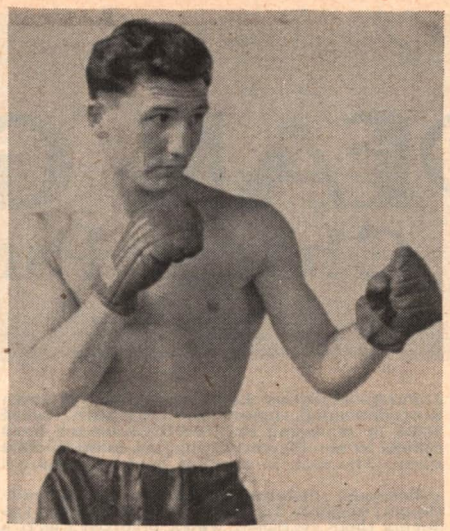
DERBY.—Al Browne, British Guiana, 135¾, and Colin Harrison, Rotherham, 135, drew over eight dreary rounds.
Jack Johnson Cofie, Accra, 161, came in as a last minute substitute to lose on points against Peter King, Manchester, 149, after a great scrap. Billy Cobb, Chesterfield, 135, stopped Bryan Phillips, Wales, 135, in the fourth. Danny Harvey, Glasgow, 147, defeated Cliff Lawrence, Sheffield, 147, on points over six rounds. Pete Holberg, Grimsby, 112½, stopped Colin Barber, Sutton-in-Ashfield, 118, in the second.

WALSALL.—Norman Wormall, Birmingham, 138, notched a narrow points win over Dai Davies, Welsh Lightweight Champion, 138, over eight rounds.
Ray Jeffs, Doncaster, 147, outscored Jim Stimpson, Tipton, 145½, over six. Alf Price, Worcester, 175½, stopped Ernie Comley, Oldbury, 173, in the third. Ken Ashwood, Derby, 146½, outpointed Cliff Lawrence, Sheffield, 146, over six. Teddy Best, Cardiff, 140½, outpointed Ray Corbett, Birmingham, 140, over six rounds.

NATIONAL SPORTING CLUB.—Bill Connor, St. Helens, 136, was unfortunate to receive a cut eyebrow in the opening round of his bout with Johnny Hudson, 135, which caused the referee to halt the contest in Hudson's favor. Len Innes, Notting Hill, 134½, and Bob Murray, Portsmouth, 135½, drew over six rounds. Jack Thornbury, Covent Garden, 147, took a narrow points win over Gordon Kearns, Shepherds Bush, 145, after six rounds. Peter Hill, Leyton, 135, boxed well to outpoint Terry Murphy, Hoxton, 136, over six. Johnny Smith, Portsmouth, 174, won a six rounder from Sid Cain, Watford, 177½. Ken Gains, Islington, 155, outpointed Freddie Balio, West Africa, 153½, over six.

DURHAM.—Jackie Keough, Chester-le-Street, 145½, outpointed Terry Cullen, Shotton, 144½, over ten rounds. Charlie Curry, Coatbridge, 151½, stopped Dave Brandon, Durham, 149¼, in the third when the latter had received a badly cut lower lip. Bob Batty, Newcastle, 142½, drew with Mike Jones, Middlesborough, 147, over four rounds. Billy Taylor, Thornaby, 146, outpointed Bamber Gaye, Gambia, 142½, over four.

SPALDING.—Len Jarvis, Norwich, 154, outpointed Jack Johnson Cofie, Gold Coast, 159, over eight rounds. Tony Curzon, Nottingham, 161, stopped Idris Williams, Wales, 156, in the fourth. Jack Guyatt, Nottingham, 146, stopped Eddie Green, Norwich, 139, in the third. Tom Berry, Nottingham, 139, knocked out Tom Finlay, Boyton, 141, in the first round. Bill Wallage, Beeston, 139, outpointed Johnny Pipe, Beccles, 139, over six. Gerald Futter, Lincoln, 128, knocked out Brian Wilde, Nottingham, 126, in the first.



Tony Mancini, young son of Alf Mancini, former star British middleweight, who has won 12 of his fourteen pro fights. He lost and drew in the other two. Under the guidance of Alf, Tony hopes to make the grade. He is 20 years old and was discharged from the army only recently after two years service. He's a welterweight.

LEYTON.—Jimmy Davis, Bethnal Green, 173½, won an eight rounds points verdict over Fred Jackson, 176¼. George Happe, Bethnal Green, 148½, outpointed Wally Mays, Hull, 149, over eight rounds. Albert Carroll, Bethnal Green, 146, outpointed Charlie Page, Stepney, 142, over six. Frank O'Brien, Galway, 138½, knocked out Jimmy Maloney, Croydon, 139, in the third. Billy Edwards, Hornchurch, 138½, stopped George Danahar, Bethnal Green, 158, in the third, while Harry Griver, Hackney, 118½, stopped Ray Ballard, Croydon, 118, also in the third.

BELFAST.—Jim Feeney, Banbridge, 128, and Billy Graham, Lisburn, 129, drew over six rounds. Sam Thompson, Belfast, 145½, outpointed Bobby Kelly, Lisburn, 143½, over six. Billy Kane, Belfast, 110½, knocked out Tommy Gordon, Belfast, 105, in the first. Billy Andrews, Lisburn, 153½, outpointed Paddy Coney, Belfast, 151¼, over six. Tom Griffen, Belfast, 116¼, stopped Charlie O'Niell, Belfast, 116½, in the first.

LIVERPOOL STADIUM.—Billy Ellaway, Liverpool, 157½, stopped Bert Sanders, Kilburn, 161½, in the eighth and last round, when Sanders arose from a count and was unable to defend himself.
Colin Clitheroe, Preston, 112½, outpointed Paul Dunne, Dublin, 115½, over eight. Neville Rowe, Blackpool, 171, outpointed Ken Burt, Doncaster, 173, over four rounds. Ray Jones, Cockermouth, 119, outpointed Cliff Bardsley, Manchester, 117½, over four rounds. Derek Clarke, Burnley, 140, knocked out Des Capper, Chester, 136, in the first round.

BELLE VUE, MANCHESTER.—In one of the greatest all action contests seen for many a year, Robert Cohen, France, 117, inflicted the first defeat on the British Empire Flyweight King, Jake Tuli, South Africa, 115, after ten ever exciting rounds. Cohen had the South African down for six counts while also taking one himself, and the crowd was on its toes throughout the bout.
Dave Williams, Barry, 172, gained a narrow points victory over Brian Anders, Brighton, 171, over eight rounds. Johnny Sullivan, Preston, 161¾, stopped Bruce Crawford, Thornaby, 159, in the fourth of a scheduled eight rounder. The referee called a halt when Crawford was taking severe punishment. Peter King, Manchester, 148½, drew with Peter Fallon, Birkenhead, 148¼, over eight rounds. Willie Lloyd, Brecogn, 136¾, outscored Jackie Dyer, Bolton, 137, over six, while Jack Darlington, Matlock, 201, stopped George Cooper, Orpington, 205, in the first round.

LEEDS.—Wally Thom, British Welterweight Champion, 150, knocked out Scottish Welterweight Champ, Danny Molloy, Glasgow, 148, in the third of a scheduled eight rounder.
Terry McDonald, Cudworth, 201, outpointed Paddy Slavin, Belfast, 196½, over eight rounds. Eric Ludlam, Sheffield, 162, outpointed Roy Johnson, Liverpool, 157½, over eight. Peter Smith, Huddersfield, 146¼, outpointed Eric Davies, Stourbridge, 147¾, over eight. Sandy Manuel, Nigeria, 135½, knocked out Ricky McCylloch, Belfast, 136½, in the fifth. Johnny Delmore, Leeds, 139½, stopped Vince Flynn, Leeds, 139, in the first.

NEWCASTLE.—Johnny Mann, Birmingham, 139, gained a clear cut points win over Johnny Hudson, Covent Garden, 137, after eight uninspiring rounds.
Charlie Hill, Glasgow, 128¼, outpointed Tommy Higgins, Hanley, 127¼, over eight. Tim McLeary, Wrexham, 146½, won from Dave Underwood, Plymouth, 145½, over eight. Johnny Miller, North Shields, 139¼, won from Jackie Colpitts, Chopwell, 141¾, over six. Ken Scott, Gateshead, 130, stopped Charlie Greay, Sunderland, 129, in the third after Greay had taken several counts.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.—Johnny Cole, Beeston, 127, outpointed Len Shaw, Sheffield, 124, over eight rounds, the decision meeting with a mixed reception.
Billy Cobb, Chesterfield, 135, knocked out Ron Tyson, Sheffield, 134, in the second. Ken Ashwood, Derby, 146½, outpointed Jack Guyatt, Nottingham, 146, over six. Tom Berry, Nottingham, 137, knocked out Stuart Finch, Sheffield, 136½, in the first.

WILLENHALL.—Darkie Hughes, Cardiff, 140, outpointed Jeff Walters, Scarborough, 139¾, over eight rounds.
Les Garbett, Cannock, 147¾, outpointed Johnny Williamson, Gloucester, 149, over six. Frank Walker, Warwick, 196, stopped Billy Conn, Birmingham, 193¾, in the fifth, when Conn had sustained a badly gashed eyebrow. Bobby Johnson, Plymouth, 150½, outpointed Ray Jeffs, Doncaster, 149¾, over six. Teddy Best, Cardiff, 137½, outscored Mike Hughes, Netheravon, 137½, over six rounds.

KIRKCALDY.—Jimmy Croll, Dundee, 144, knocked out Eric Skidmore, Wednesbury, 145, in the sixth of a scheduled eight rounder.
Tedy Ansell, Jamaica, 136½, knocked out John Beveridge, Kirkcaldy, 133, in the second round. Marshall Bell, Leith, 175, stopped Dennis Lockton, Manchester, 180, in the fourth. Dai Willis, Jamaica, 141, stopped Hugh Cullen, Edinburgh, 138½, in the third. Reg Watson, Kennoway, 128¾, outpointed Al Lindon, Birmingham, 131, over six rounds.

NEWS FROM LA LAGUNA, MEXICO

By Miguel Ramirez Aznar

Club Olimpico, Durango.—Chico Martínez, 132, decisioned Marcelo Vargas, 131, in 10 rounds. Joe Castañeda, 143, drew with newcomer Ernesto Molina, 135, in 10.

Club Olímpico, Durango.—Salvador Mares, 131, won over Chico Martínez, 132, in 10 rounds Tommy Vázquez, 117, defeated Cubanito Torres, 117, in 10.

Club Olímpico, Durango.—Raúl Solís, 116, former flyweight champion of Mexico, won a decision over Panchito González, 120, in 10. Relámpago Name, 143, KO'd Black Márquez, 144, in 2 rounds.

Arena "Obrero", Torreón.—Alfonso Flores, 140, easily outpointed Manuel Rocha, 143, in 10 rounds, but the judges declared the fight a draw. Jorge Valverde, 117, surprised the fans when he defeated tough Leandro García, 116, in ten rounds. Luis Uribe, 131, TKO'd Héctor Arenas, 132, in the fourth.

Club Olímpico, Durango.—Veteran Kid Azteca (Luis Villanueva), 150, fought Agustín (Pirrín) Vega 152, to a draw. Andrés González (El Herrero), 147, put Hungaro Parra, 146, to sleep in three.

Arena "La Rosita", Torreón.—Lucio (Borrachito) González, 118, bantamweight champion of La Laguna, decisioned Genaro Serafín, 119, in 10 rounds. Tránsito Ramírez, 125, severely beat Rogelio Saucedo, 121, in 10 rounds. Salvador "Gato" González, 130, defeated Jesús Meléndez, 129, in eight rounds.

Auditorium Cruz Blanca, Chávez.—Canelo Kid (Eduardo Rodriguez), 141, KO'd Luis Uribe, 135, in six rounds. Rendon Soto, 142, and Chino Colonia (Ruben Ibarra), 138, drew in 10 rounds. Jorge Valverde, 117, easily won over Salvador "Chicharitos" Ruiz, 116, in eight.

Arena "Obrero", Torreón.—Veteran rough and tough Juan Leaños, demonstrated to the local fans that he still can beat the best at his natural weight, 131, when he battered Conrado Castañón, from Juarez, Mexico, who fought at 132. Pedro "La Dolorosa" Piña, 126, appearing for the first time as a main eventer, KO'd Baby Tampico, 125, in the third round with a hard right cross to the jaw. Cisco Kid (Francisco Perez), 146, was lucky enough to land a left hook, on Carlos Talamantes', 150, jaw, putting him to sleep in the fifth.

EUROPEAN GOSSIP

by Charlie Parish

NOT many important bouts took place last month. Ray Famechon edged out a win over young Jacques Dumesnil; Joseph Janssens upset the World's interim featherweight champ, Percy Bassett by outscoring him, and Lou Skena clung on to his European flyweight title by whipping Gianelli, the Italian.

The tragic death of young Ray Grassi, saddened the month for French fans and his conqueror, Chickaoui, had little joy from winning the national title.

Gustav Scholz looked brilliant in stopping Baby Day and Jean Corhay drew with Mitri. Ingo Johansson iced the French heavy, Degl 'Innocenti, up in Sweden and Augustin Argote, Spanish lightie king, chilled Pat Ford in distant Australia.

Robert Cohen won a tremendous battle against Jake Tuli, the Zulu flyweight, and Bep Van Klaveren announced his return to boxing at the age of 45 (!)

Amsterdam, Holland.—Henk Klok became the new Dutch feathers king by trouncing the title-holder, Jan Maas, in nine rounds. Klok had previously whipped the champ in a non-title fray.

Beausoleil, France.—Bruno Tripodi continued unbeaten by halting the Luxemburg middles king, Franz Ehringer, in the ninth frame of a hard battle. This was the beginning of Ehringer's comeback campaign!

Barcelona, Spain.—Luis Martinez, former amateur bantam star, halted Julio Martinez in the opening stanza of their meeting here.

In Madrid, Luis De Santiago was returned the winner against Jamaican lightie, Al Young, over eight rounds, and at Barcelona José Segura trimmed Yanguas in a welter eight.

A few days later, Angel Garcia got the nod over Antonio Lopez in a welter ten at the same venue, and in a later show in Madrid, Antonio Monzon celebrated his return to Spanish soil with a points win over the local welter, Francisco Frances, in eight.

Mestre, Italy.—Former middles king, Gino Campagna continued his comeback effort with a points win over modest Dante Madella in ten rounds.

In Milan, Marcello Padovani was held to a draw by Giovanni Paini in a lightweight eight and in Venice, Sergio Milan defeated Mario Posca in a feathers eight.

Paris.—Jacques Loit, the little Norman bantam champ, upset the local star, André Jasse by whipping that worthy over ten hard rounds at the Central Club. Ben Aissa nodded Pierre Stanzack in another bantam eight.

Brussels, Belgium.—Alex Bollaert made things uncomfortable for Pierre Cossemyns during their argument which involved Pierre's national bantam crown, speeding too fast for Cossemyns to catch him. But in the ninth Pierre put an end to the undignified race and plastered the challenger so badly that Bollaert retired during the eleventh.

Barcelona, Spain.—Two old bantam stars tangled here when Luis Romero battered Theo Medina to defeat in six rounds. Medina took counts in the fourth and fifth.

Ravenna, Italy.—Tiberio Mitri repeated a previous win over Constant Alcantara by trimming the Frenchman in ten rounds here, and Evo Savini won over Kid le Noir in a lightweight eight.

At Casale Monferrato, Valde Fusaro defeated the Martinique lightie, Theo Nollet, over ten rounds.

Paris.—Charles Humez and Claude Milazzo tangled in an interesting middles battle at the Palais des Sports. Both men fought themselves to a standstill and the result of a draw seemed to rather flatter Milazzo, who nevertheless did well to hold Humez to so close a decision. Germinal Ballarin staggered the audience with his triumph over the half-stone heavier Portuguese cruiser king, blond Julio Neves; Ballarin battered the visitor to defeat inside three rounds.

Hilaire Pratesi continued well by stopping Marcel Mathieu in the fourth of a bantam slugfest and Lucien Touzard upset highly-favored Eugene D'Alessio in the second heat of a heavyweight slam.

Milan, Italy.—Umberto Vernaglione trimmed the French welter, Andre Guyon over eight rounds at the Principe. Four other Frenchmen figured on the program, only one, Jean Dubois, obtained a victory, in this case over featherweight Mangiarelli. Letterio Petilli beat Mastrangelo, and Piero Rollo halted Maurice Garcia, both bantam affairs, and Mario Casellato drew with Andre Roustan in a welter eight.

Perugia, Italy.—The human tank, lightweight Franco Antonini, thumped out a good win over tough Gaetano De Lucia in eight, and Bottacioli won by a foul in the second round against welter Ernesto Giorgi.

Berlin, Germany.—Gustav Scholz was in most impressive form at the Sports Palace where he disposed of Baby Day, the excellent U. S. middleweight, inside three rounds. Day was swept off his feet during the third and finally the referee stopped the slaughter.

Willi Hoepner was also in a hurry. He whammed a series of left hooks to the liver of Giuliano Pancani and stopped the Italian cruiser right in the first round. Two quick wins to southpaws.

William Besmanoff got a narrow verdict over Ray Schmit, Luxembourg cruiser, in eight and Ernst Zetzmann nodded Herbert Glaser in a welter six.

Max Resch whipped Herbert Obermeier in a middles four and Guenter Hase outscored Erich Pregla in a welter four. Joachim Borowski edged out a win over Otto Hentrich in a middles four.

Munich, Germany.—Ivano Fontana and Franz Szuzina fought a rather dull draw over ten rounds, the German being kept at a distance by Ivano. In another middles scrap, Werner Teuscher defeated Bruno Bernardinello of Italy and Hans Haefner forced Fritz Schwering to retire in the second heat of a welter slam.

The stormy Trieste feather, Aldo Pravisani, rescued the program by blitzing blond Hans Schoemig within a couple of minutes of the opening round.

Gothenburg, Sweden.—Ingo Johansson won his fifth consecutive start as a pro by slicing the legs from under Ray Degl 'Innocenti in two rounds. The Swedish heavy did not give his French foe time to get home his own powerful right.

Gunnar Nilsson got another win for the locals when Erik Jensen of Denmark was ruled out in the second for striking low, and Sture Olsson hammered out a victory over Jacques Lebegue in a cruiser eight. Lejf Wadling drew with Salvator Vangi, the Fernch feathers prospect, over six rounds.

Cologne, Germany.—Emil Koch, the new middles favorite of the Rheinland, fought well to gain a points win over Albert Ganser in eight rounds, and Peter Mueller, still redeeming himself, thudded out a good victory over Harry Mino of Belgium. Ludwig Petri deserved to win over Karl Pinsdorf but only achieved a draw in a good lightweight eight, and Theo Imbsweiler trimmed Arthur L'Ami, Belgian middle, over eight.

Hans Friedrichs wound up the evening with a brilliant knockout of Hans Strelecki in the second frame of a heavyweight duel.

Marseilles, France.—A tragedy marked the triumph of Mohamed Chickaoui here, when he succeeded to the national featherweight title. He tore into a lethargic Ray Grassi and bashed the usually brilliant local from one side of the ring to the other. The wild, swinging Algerian landed as he pleased and finally Grassi's corner surrenderd. A couple of days later, Grassi died in hospital after a brain operation. This was to have been his last fight as a feather. He had been drugging himself to reduce weight.

Gaetano Annaloro drew with Emile Chemama in a bantam ten and Lomperti whipped Smeraldi in a feathers eight.

St. Nazaire, France.—Charles Colin became the new national cruiser champ when he stopped Joseph Roude in the eleventh round of their match for the vacant title. Colin was in trouble early on but weathered the storm.

At Laon, Gilbert Lavoine was unable to check the tough Spanish middle, Kid Gameiro, but won a clear points victory after ten rounds.

At Le Mans, Andre Valignat, got the better of Guy Bonin in a bantam ten and Robert Gillet trimmed René Valignat in a welter

CONTINENTAL RATINGS

(Month Ending Jan. 15, 1954)

HEAVIES	CRUISERS	MIDDLES	WELTERS
1. Karel Sys (B)	Gerhard Hecht (G)	Charles Humez (F)	Gilbert Lavoine (F)
2. Heinz Neuhaus (G)	Willi Hoepner (G)	Gus Scholz (G)	Chris Christensen (D)
3. Hein ten Hoff (G)	Jacq. Hairabedian (F)	Hans Stretz (G)	Paolo Melis (I)
4. Guenter Nuernberg (G)	Wim Snoek (H)	Pierre Langlois (F)	Raphael Da Sylva (P)
5. Hugo Salfeld (G)	Giovanni Alfonsetti (I)	Tiberio Mitri (I)	Idrissa Dione (F)
6. Kurt Schiegl (A)	Heinz Sachs (G)	Claude Milazzo (F)	Italo Scortichini (I)
7. Uber Bacilieri (I)	Marcel Linage (B)	Franz Szuzina (G)	Luigi Valentini (I)
8. Werner Wiegand (G)	Charles Colin (F)	Germinal Ballarin (F)	Antonio Monzon (S)
9. Ingo Johansson (SW)	William Besmanoff (G)	Ivano Fontana (I)	Jean Ruellet (F)
10. Aldo Pellegrini (I)	Karl Ameisbichler (A)	Mickey Laurent (F)	Garbis Zakaryan (T)

LIGHTWEIGHTS	FEATHERS	BANTAMS	FLYWEIGHTS
1. Joergen Johansen (D)	Jean Sneyers (B)	Robert Cohen (FA)	Louis Skena (F)
2. Jacques Herbillon (F)	Ray Famechon (F)	Maurice Sandeyron (F)	Young Martin (S)
3. Duilio Loi (I)	Manolo Garcia (S)	Andre Valignat (F)	Charlie Bohbot (FM)
4. Auguste Caulet (F)	Jacques Dumesnil (F)	Pierre Cossemyns (B)	Nazzareno Gianelli (I)
5. Werner Handke (G)	Jacques Bataille (F)	Gaetan Annaloro (I)	Antonio Diaz (S)
6. Hoacine Khalfi (FA)	Altidoro Polidori (I)	Emile Chemama (FA)	Andre Jasse (F)
7. Bruno Visintin (I)	Alvaro Nuvoloni (I)	Gianni Zuddas (I)	Emile Delplanque (B)
8. Augustin Argote (S)	Mohamed Chickaoui (FA)	Mario D'Agata (I)	Willibald Koch (G)
9. Louis Carrara (F)	Luis Romero (S)	Dante Bini (F)	Robert Mouginot (F)
10. Joseph Janssens (B)	Jose Hernandez (S)	Henk Van der Zee (H)	Ennio Aroldi (I)
	Louis Cabo (B)		

LEGEND—(A) Austria; (B) Belgium; (D) Denmark; (F) France; (FM) French-Morocco; (G) Germany; (H) Holland; (I) Italy; (L) Luxemburg; (P) Portugues; (S) Spain; (SW) Sweden; (FA) French Algeria.

eight. Edmond Moletto lost to Jack Louni in a bantam eight at the Paris Central Club.

At Biarritz, René Weissmann knocked out El Djouer in the fourth stanza of a welter affair.

Annecy, France.—Simon Perillat, local lightweight hope, put paid to Marcel Merle in the second round of their match here, and Perez whipped Julien Rabaini in a welter eight.

At Grenoble, Mario Ursini outscored Frank Youst in a middles ten.

At St. Brieuc, Francis Coeuret continued his unbeaten way by getting the best of it against Henri Chebaut in a heavyweight eight. André Lefin lost to the local lightie, Gaston Mathieu, over eight.

Bruges, Belgium.—Alois De Wulf and Leo Starosch, the German welter star, indulged in a fine fray here, with the Belgian champ several times on the edge of a kayo defeat. At the end of ten rounds, De Wulf was proclaimed winner.

Eugene Servais stopped Willi Gelhaar in the second sesion and another German lightie, Gerhard Mueller, returned the compliment by icing Roeland Laurent in the sixth.

Paris.—At the Central Club, Rene Bolivia trounced Rayl Dumoutier over ten rounds in a good lightweight fray, and at Asnieres, in the suburbs, Jacques Prigent did better in his second start as a welter by lacing René Lacaze, over ten rounds.

Jean Padovani was ruled out in the fifth session of his bout with lightweight Guy Prigent.

At Rouen, Robert Guivarch punched out a win over tough Gilbert Ussin in a welter ten, and Messaoudi nodded Ray Falkner in a lightweight eight. William Thieulin drew with Serge Ceustermans in a welter eight.

Milan, Italy. At the National Theater, Tiberio Mitri won one more of his neat points affairs by outclassing the French middle, Michel Aubignat, over ten.

Aldo Pellegrini made it five in a row by halting Lucien Touzard in the sixth session of a heavyweight argument thus reversing a defeat by the Parisian during their amateur days.

In two feathers frays, Sergio Caprari stopped Duilio Lippi in two, Antonio Borraccia checked Franco Giannini in the fifth round, and in two lightweight mixups, Franco Rosini whipped Mario Rosellini over six and Giancarlo Garbelli creased Renato Matteotti in three.

Ostend, Belgium.—Piet Wilde defended his title against Al Bernard at the Kursaal, and after weathering a series of hard attacks, finally overcame the lanky challenger and stopped him in the tenth. Jo Verbrugh nodded Etienne Delannoit in a middles eight.

At Avelghem, Kid Eugene drew with Camille Milo in a middles ten and at Gulleghem, Hector Lion thumped out a win over the local cruiser, Victor Vicky.

Paris.—At the Palais des Sports, Ray Famechon fortunately retained his leadership of French feathers by narrowly outscoring young Jacques Dumesnil in a fast and brilliant ten-rounder.

Werner Handke lost face by retiring to Auguste Caulet in the fifth round of their lightweight battle and Seraphim Ferrer won over Pitiot in a lightweight six. André Valignat was held to a draw by young Andre Younsi in a good bantam ten.

Brussels.—Joseph Janssens, promising lightweight who is not even champion of his own country, gained a great success at the Palais des Sports here by boxing his way to victory against Percy Bassett. It was a close affair, but the Belgian deserved this upset win.

Jean Sneyers looked pale by comparison, winning a rather poor bout against the French colonial, Morlay Kamara. Randy Turpin boxed an exhibition with Belgian cruiser comer, Jean Corhay, and in a welter scrap, Jean Labalette reversed a previous setback by whipping Edgard Delannoit over ten.

Parma, Italy.—Marcello Padovani did well to hold Emilio Marconi to a draw over ten rouds here, though the latter was not his usual self. Giannino Luise, heavyweight comer, outpointed the French novice, Mariano, over six.

Casablanca, Morroco.—Hanañia Bohbot unexpectedly got his revenge by trimming the classy Italian feather, Sergio Milan, over ten rounds, while another Italian, flyweight Franco Lombardozzi, did well to hold Charlie Bohbot to a draw over ten rounds.

At Rosendael, France, Jacques Legendre was ruled out in the seventh round for hitting low his opponent, Marcel Ranvial.

At Chambery, Jacques Collomb got the better of veteran Tino Cardinale in a good bantam ten, and at Angers, Hilaire Pratesi beat Maxime Cochin in a bantam ten which pleased the fans.

Arques, France.—Roger Facqueur was again on form against Jean Julien and succeeded in stopping the Norman welter in round three, while brother Regis nodded Szaplicki in a welter eight.

At the Paris Central, Roger Baour returned to action with a good win over Maurice Laurin, whom he stopped in the ninth round of a welter duel.

Geneva, Switzerland.—Louis Skena, for whom the going has not been so smooth this year, successfully retained his European flyweight title against his Italian challenger, Nazzareno Gianelli. It was a fairly tame affair which went the full fifteen rounds with Skena nabbing a handy points decision.

Cagliari, Italy.—Paolo Melis finally confirmed his leadership of the national welter line-up by deposing champion Luigi Valentini over twelve rounds. Gianni Zuddas bested Pierre Stanzack, French bantam, in ten.

Amiens, France.—Jacques Bataille was sadly off form against Francis Bonnardel in a catch-weight affair which ended in a draw after Bonnardel showed up the local man's limitations.

At St. Etienne, Mario Ciccarelli blasted out the Belgian lightie, Roger Delabassée, in two, and Bouheraou iced Theo Nollet in the fourth of another lightweight slam. Andreé Jicat whipped. Andre Mauguin.

Barcelona, Spain.—Two title bouts were on the one program at the Gran Price here, when Domingo Lopez became the new cruiser king by whipping Bautista Navarro over twelve, and Young Martin retained his flyweight crown by drawing with Antonio Diaz over the same distance. Bobby Ros, the brilliant young local feather, decisioned the French comer, Jean Bichot, over eight.

Lisieux, France.—Marcel Assire looked good in crushing the Italian from Paris, Umberto Paccagnella, in the fifth frame of a middles sort-out.

At Chantilly, famous horse-racing center, a new heavyweight hope blossomed forth when Bernard Navarre made his pro debut, stopping James Galli in the second session.

Jean Ruellet was equally impressive, halting William Thieulin in the ninth stanza of their welter clash and now rates a shot at the national title.

At the Paris Stadium, Serge Gazard was held to a draw by Tino Cardinale in a bantam ten and Pierrard whipped Claude Lapourielle in a welter eight.

Bruggenhout, Belgium.—The young French welter hope, Michel Clavel, was beaten by the local prospect, Meskens. Jean Sneyers boxed an exhibition with Jean Paternotte.

At the Coliseum in Ghent, the American cruiser, Mel Brown, continued his run of victories by icing the sturdy German, Otto Bastian, in round three.

Milan, Italy.—Giovanni Paini stopped Beccaria in the fifth round and in a second lightweight contest, Felice Gallo blasted Elio Busetto in the fourth. In a couple of featherweight arguments, Enrico Macale bested Flaviano Ciancarelli in six and Mario Posca edged Giovanni Zinno also in six.

In Naples, Luigi Fasulo overcame the French mulatto, Arthur Emboulé in a bantam ten. In the opening series of a welter comp at Bologna, Casellato trimmed Sylvano Locatelli, Conti creased Franco Livio in one, Piu trounced Raba and Pozzi nodded Franco Rizzotti. All bouts scheduled for six rounds.

Liege, Belgium.—Tiberio Mifri suffered a nasty shock when he was held to a draw here by the promising cruiser, Jean Corhay, though the Italian did have slightly the best of the exchanges. Renard outscored Andre Piens in a feathers bout.

La Spezia, Italy.—That excellent lightweight prospect, Bruno Visintin, came thru with another good win when he thrashed clever Beppe Di Joanni over ten rounds. Powerful Franco Cavicchi bulled his way to victory against blond Robert Masson, French heavy, who retired in the fifth.

Bordeaux, France.—Pierre Richaud was lucky to get the nod against Jacques Legendre when these two bright young feathers met on Christmas Eve. Edouard Ptak did better against Rene Bolivia and was justly given the verdict after a good lightweight ten. Andre Meraint stiffened Ben Zaia in the fourth of another feathers bout.

At the Paris Central, André Scotto iced Amara in the opening round of a lightweight shindy and at the Stadium, André Pierson overwhelmed Jo Martin in the fourth sesh of a bantam slam.

Sousse, Tunisia.—Tino Albanese did well here to stop Mohamed Ouerdani in the fourth frame of a cruiser bout, in which Tino was outweighed by half a stone.

FROM BOISE, IDAHO

JIMMY GROW, the hard punching Lewiston Lightweight, is rapidly becoming a threat in the lightweight division. Jimmy is the rough and willing type of fighter with a knockout punch.

Jimmy is managed by Jack "Moe" Smith of Boise, Idaho. Since these two have been together, Jimmy has won 5 of his last 6 fights via the K.O. route. He went to Butte, Montana and broke Herbie Patzer's nine straight K.O. record by decisively beating him, and since has been a favorite of Bute fight fans.

Jimmy hails from Lewiston, Idaho and is 21 years old. He has had 28 pro fights winning 14 along the knockout route. He has not confined his talents locally. Jim is somewhat of a globe trotter. He has fought in California, Canada, and through the Northwestern states. In Calgary, Jimmy beat Johnny Selkeld, the fast rising Canadian welterweight.

THE RING QUESTION BOX

Manuel Wilner, New York City.

Q—Did a round always consist of three minutes boxing?

A—No. In the bare knuckle days it lasted until one man was downed.

J. Shulman, Far Rockaway, L. I., N. Y.

Q—Is Jersey Joe Walcott 46 or 47 years old?

A—According to his birth certificate as registered by his family, he is only 38.

William Fliss, South Dakota.

Q—Did Ray Robinson and Kid Gavilan ever meet in the ring?

A—Yes, Get a copy of the Ring Record Book which shows that Ray won in 10 rounds on September 23, 1948, and again in 15 rounds on July 11, 1949.

Thomas Treton, Winnipeg, Can.

Q—Was Max Schmeling ever world title holder?

A—Yes. He won the world heavyweight title on a foul from Jack Sharkey, July 12, 1930. You'll find this in our Ring Record Book.

Frederick Stone, Providence, R. I.

Q—Did Benny Bass ever hold any title?

A—On September 12, 1927, he won the vacant feather title, defeating Red Chapman in 10 rounds. He lost that title to Tony Canzoneri on February 10, 1928, in 15 rounds and then he won the junior lightweight title by defeating Tod Morgan on December 19, 1929, scoring a KO in the second round.

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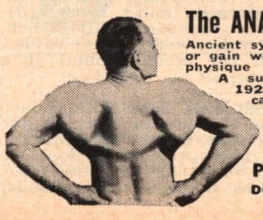

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WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS NEWS
By Don Hamill

THE following are results of bouts staged at the Valley Arena in Holyoke during the month:

Dec. 7—Bobby Courchesne, 127, of the Willimansett section of Chicopee, scored an easy two round knockout over Dom Amorosa, 127¾, New York, in racking up his 17th win in 18 pro starts. Courchesne warmed to the task at the opening bell and dumped Amorosa with a left hook just before the bell ended the round. He quickly followed his advantage in the second round and scored two knockdowns before Referee Bill Lieberman called a halt.

Bobby Harris, 159, Cliffside, N. J., scored a one round kayo over Eddie Swift, 156, Waterbury, Conn., in a dynamite laden semi-final. Harris connected first and so was the winner. George Stephany, 126, New York, banged out a clear cut win over Jerry Kortright, 122, Puerto Rico, in a six rounder. The show stealer was a four rounder between Billy (Kid) Clark, 140, Westfield, Mass., who won a split decision over Young Sharkey, 139½, Holyoke. Johnny Green, 161, Springfield, scored a four round decision over Eddie Demars, 168, also of Springfield. In the opener, Billy Lynch, 140, Hartford, outpunched Rance Wright, 144, Holyoke, in four heats.

Dec. 14—Jimmy Walls, 187, Englewood, N. J., won on a first round technical knockout when Ernie Sheppard, 186, Newark, N. J., suffered a severe laceration on his right eye lid. Sheppard was a last minute substitute for James J. Parker.

George Stephany, 126, New York, edged out Nick Devanno, 125, Norwich, Conn., in the six round semi-final. Braxton Reed, 129, New York, scored a six round decision over Young Saint, 128, Holyoke. Herman Gary, 143, Waterbury, got off the floor to flatten Alvin Robinson, 148, New Haven, in the third round. Kenny Adams, 125, Norwich, stopped Young Wills, 122, Providence, R. I., in the second round. Eddie Demars, 169, Springfield, won a four round decision over Johnny Cox, 165, New York.

Dec. 21—Vince Martinez, 152, Paterson, N. J., failed to get even a workout at the expense of Jerry Bethea, 147, New York. In the first round Bethea futilly pawed at the TV idol. Just before the bell he managed to catch Martinez with a solid right to the head. Martinez was all business as the second round started. A solid right behind the ear spilled Bethea for the full count.

What the main event lacked the semi-final between Art Mullen, 123, Philadelphia, and Kenny Adams, 125½, Norwich, had. The battle won by Mullen on a split decision was later judged the best bout of the year at the arena. The pair staged a terrific punching duel with both fighters rocked frequently and bleeding freely from eye cuts.

Braxton Reed, 131, New York, won on a strange tko when Vinnie Ricco, 127, Hartford, suffered a severe laceration and cut artery on his head from a collision of heads. Five stitches were needed to close the wound which caused the bout to be halted at the end of the first round. Billy (Kid) Clark, 139, Westfield, narrowly edged out Young Sharkey, 140, Holyoke, in an action packed four rounder. Bill Tate, 157, New York, stopped Bob Hannibal, 152½, Springfield, in the second round. Fred Collier, 150½, New York, stiffened Donnie Conn, 145, Springfield, in round one.

Dec. 28—Harry Smith, 126½, Brooklyn, N. Y., broke the winning streak of Bobby Courchesne, 127½, Chicopee, in the eight round feature. Courchesne took the first round with his fast punching but then allowed Smith to bull him into the ropes where he belabored him with body blows. From the second round on Smith had control of the fight. Bobby made many friends with his gameness in defeat.

Barry Allison, 146, Westover AFB, won handily over Joe Lissy, 145½, New York, in the six round semi-final. Nick Devanno, 129, Norwich, slammed out a six round decision over Johnny Sheehan, 130, New York. Ray Bell, 160½, Brooklyn, won a four round verdict from Leroy Faison, 165½, Brooklyn, in a knock-'em-down-drag-'em-out contest that saw both on the canvas several times. Sam Brown, 167, Hartford, shellacked Jimmy Doxie, 161, New York, in a four rounder. Billy Lynch, 139, Hartford, neatly disposed of Jose Valdez, 144, New York, in the second round of a four spot.

Jan. 4—Joe Miceli, 145, New York, joined the ranks of name fighters brought to the Valley Arena in recent weeks but like the others he was not given any opposition. Miceli's victim, who went out in round two, was Jesse Keeler, 141, Greensburg, Pa. Keeler was willing and tried to take the fight to Miceli but lacked ability. Miceli floored him the first time in the first round with a solid left hook to the jaw. Keeler was down three times in the second round the final time for the count. A right to the jaw settled Keeler into the resin for keeps.

Nick Devanno, 127, Norwich, rallied to take the verdict in the six round semi-final from George Stephany, 125½, Brooklyn, thus avenging a previous loss. Sam Brown, 167, Hartford, decisioned Jimmy Doxie, 160, New York, in six dull rounds. It was a poor night for a trio of boxers making their pro debuts. Ronnie Valoir, 163, Worcester, was kayoed by Eddie Demars, 165, Springfield, in the first round. Eddie McColgan, 140, Northampton, looked very good until Young Sharkey, 140, Holyoke, caught up with him in the third round. And Nick Merola, 161, Springfield, lasted but three rounds with Johnny Cox, 159, New York.

HOOKS AND JABS—Eddie Swift, Waterbury, Conn., middleweight, had scored knockouts in all of his bouts before showing at the Valley Arena. . . . Bobby Courchesne, Willimansett Whirlwind, shot his first deer getting a 90-pound doe at Goshen. He hunted as part of his training. . . . Jimmy Tiboni, former Westover AFB airman, is back in these parts after having been discharged from the service. While stationed here Tiboni, a light-heavyweight, scored a string of quick knockouts in four round bouts. He became so popular and confident that he challenged Springfield's Sammy Walker, who at that time was hot. They met in a main event that saw Walker scoring a thrilling one round knockout. . . . Tiboni is to start a comeback under the aegis of Bobby Maguire of Agawam. . . . A lot of credit goes to Joe McKenna and Artie Curley for keeping boxing alive in Holyoke.

SWINGS AND HOOKS FROM CENTRAL OHIO
By Less Huffman

TWENTY-TWO City Commissions here in Ohio now belong to the Ohio Association of Boxing and Wrestling Commissions Inc. Columbus was the most recent to join. Andy Putka of Cleveland, who is the past president of this organization, was elected President of the N.B.A. at a recent meeting in Milwaukee. Joe Gallon of Toledo, is the Ohio President. Harold Bloodgood of Mansfield, First Vice-president, Al Bechtold, Cincinnati, 2nd Vice-president and George Murphy, for the fourth straight time, was chosen Secretary-Treasurer of the Ohio Boxing and Wrestling Association. George Murphy is the oldest Commissioner in Ohio.

Louis Newman is now booking Frank Perry who was the 1953 Amateur National Champion in the light heavy weight division. Perry is a good prospect.

A lot of good fighters are at a standstill here in Ohio. Promoters who are looking for good boys for their coming shows can get about any weight they desire by getting in touch with the writer.

Rocky Castellani of Cleveland looked at his best when he was defeated by Gil Turner in the Charity show at Cleveland. Rocky had little to spare as he was forced all the way. 11,813 fans paid $72,110 to see the show.

Bud Smith of Cincinnati chalked up another win and Red Top Davis formerly of Zanesville Ohio dropped a duke last month.

Columbus has been televising Amateur shows each week here under the Sun Oil Company supervision.

Sid Goldberg announced he is going to try some TV fights in Toledo in the Auditorium. Sid has been doing all right with his television shows and these Club shows might build something up for the near future for Syd's big shows.

Bobby Thompson, a pretty fair welterweight who fought around here in 1950, is still in the U.S. service. He's in Japan. Bobby has won thirty-seven bouts and lost nine while in the Army. In his last fight in Camp Chitos, Japan, Bobby won via the K.O. Route over Robert Nieto from New York City in the second round. Bobby had been in the thick of it in Korea and is now having a good time in Japan.

Two Cleveland boys also fought on the above card in Japan, with Charles Brown copping the duke over Ben Harvey in four heats and Sugar Boy Brown winning the nod over Robert Bell, Youngstown, Ohio. The bouts were five rounders.

Some people think the third time is a charm. If you do not win the first time, try, try again. That's what Pat Spunky Lowry must have had in his head when he signed to meet Al Andrews the third time. Andrews had already beaten Lowry two times, and he duplicated the score the third time out. The last fight drew 7,333 fans and the gate's net was $15,083. The fight was staged in the Fair Grounds in Detroit, Michigan on the 12th of December.

Willie Russell, local lightweight, is now training a stable of Amateur boys. If they can fight like Willie did, it will be tough for the boys who oppose them in the amateurs here in Columbus this year.

Columbus promoted its first show here in four years. The quality club, with the writer of this column, put on a 30 round card at the memorial hall on January 5.

Send your notes and clippings in to the writer, Less Huffman, by the first of the month—P. O. Box 611, Station G, Columbus, Ohio.

MINNESOTA NEWS
By Billy Colbert

AT THE Minneapolis Auditorium, Del Flanagan, St. Paul welterweight, won the decision over Johnny Saxton in the first televised bout from Minneapolis on the Pabst Blue Ribbon show. It was a very good fight, rough at times but the best boxer won a very close decision. Flanagan showed great improvement.

In the semi-windup, Billy Pinkus, Winnipeg, 145, knocked out Jackie Richards, 153, Detroit, in three rounds.

Mickey Zielke, 138, La Crosse decisioned Louis Bartel, Minneapolis, 133, in four rounds.

Jimmy Perault, Duluth, 149, decisioned Jentric Oneill, St. Paul, 152, on four rounds.

Pete Kswulla, Winnipeg, 130, and Dick Powell, Chicago, 129, drew in four rounds.

The fight drew a gate of $11,756.00.

Wally Morgan of Pillsbury House, Minneapolis, is a very good amateur heavyweight boxer. Another good amateur heavyweight from Minneapolis is Dick Anderson.

Jimmy Wilson of Philadelphia called Sharpy by the Twin Cities fight fans, is an old timer as far as the Twin Cities is concerned. He has been coming here with fighters for twenty years and is always good for many a story. He handled Johnny Saxton in his fight with Flanagan.

Ray Wells, Minneapolis Amateur from Phyllis Wheatley House, has been named the best amateur boxer of the month in the northwest.

The Winnipeg welterweight, Billy Pinkus, has been winning all his fights in the Northwest. He is managed by Toots Scott, So. St. Paul fight manager.

Emmett Weller is busy with his gym on Robert Street getting his amateur fighters ready for another Golden Gloves team championship. His boys have won the title three years in a row and look good to repeat.

Jimmy Perault, the Duluth, Minn. welterweight, is improving in every start and should be ready for main event billing real soon.

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KANSAS CITY AND VICINITY
By Max Yeargain

TOPEKA Municipal Auditorium—Over 2,000 fans saw Bobby Bickle, the Midwest lightweight prospect, score a six round technical knockout over Eddie Brandt, 140, of Dayton, Ohio, by knocking both Brandt and Referee Duth Geiser down.

Bickle belted Brandt in the mid-section and the force of the blow knocked him back into Geiser. Both Brandt and the referee hit the canvas, with Geiser landing Brandt's instep. An examination later in the dressing room by Dr. H. L. Clark, Athletic Commission physician, disclosed that Brandt's foot was broken.

Bickle had a definite edge in two of the first four rounds and was carrying the fight to Brandt when the freakish accident occurred.

Young Joey Maldonado, Denver, Colo., featherweight, scored an impressive knockout over previously undefeated George Anderson of Indianapolis. Billy Suddeth, Topeka welterweight, kayoed Rusty Cleek, New Castle, Ind., in the third round.

Jimmy Demery, 155, Topeka, stopped Mack Carroll, 155, Louisville, Ky., in three. Bob Edens, 140, Topeka, was halted by Warren Desmond, 141, Louisville, Ky., in the fourth.

ACTION AT ALBUQUERQUE
By Johnny Seubert

WELL, now that we're into the New Year, let's hope that locally this city sees far more pugilistic activity than it did during 1953. From a fight fan's view point the past year could hardly have been any worse. There was only one card scheduled from early March of last year. That held in September, was a complete flop both from the financial returns and the very poor spectator turnout.

Currently, the sole professional license issuable under the current City charter is going begging. No one has applied for it since it was available late last September and currently it seems no inducement for anyone to try his hand at the local pro boxing game.

The amateur situation is almost as bad, for here again there is no endeavor being made to promote the simon pures with any degree of regularity. In fact, it is very doubtful at this time whether this city will enter a team in the Golden Gloves State Finals at Roswell in February 1954.

Wrestling here suffered a crippling blow several weeks ago when Bill Snelson's Ice Arena burned to the ground. The place was completely gutted and along with it going up in smoke went Promotor Mike London's achieved goal of, at least, temporarily and locally, packing in over 5,000 wrestling addicts who weekly attended Uncle Mike's extravaganzas. The 20-30 Club is still going strong each Friday night with their wrestling shows at the Armory under the guidance of Ernie "Gorilla" Poggi and Dory Detton.

So until next month Hasta La Vista! —And bear in mind the writer's address is 712 Wellesley Drive, N. E., this city.

IN MONTANA AND THE NORTHWEST
By Bo "Bow Tie" Grmoljez

ONE of the best fight cards ever put together in Butte was staged at the Butte Civic Center Arena by the American Legion Silver Bow Post No. 1 under the matchmaking of Mel Epstein. The ten round main event featured Bobby "Cyclone" Bickle of Topeka, Kansas and Santiago Esteban of Los Angeles. Here was a fight that began at the opening gong and never finished with full fury until the end of ten rounds of sheer fighting. Esteban a better boxer than Bickle could not with his craftiness hold the tow headed fighter off and when the Midwesterner cornered the Los Angeles boxer, the fur flew. Either fighter can box in Butte again and be welcomed back with open arms. Like all close fights, there was controversy as to who really won the bout. Personally I thought that the fight was called right.

Chuck Ross the two hundred pound heavyweight scrapper hailing from Portland, Oregon stopped Gus Bruno of Edmonton, Alberta, between the third and fourth round of the scheduled six round semiwindup. This fellow Ross appears to put the hex on opponents between rounds for this is the second time in as many starts in a Butte ring where the fighter has not come out for the following round. Ross is a pretty fair left hook artist and he is beginning to show possibilities in Butte as he is building up a following by his willingness to mix with his adversaries. The six round special event found Jimmy Grow too much for Jerry Strutz whom he stopped in five beats. Grow is fast improving and at the rate he is going, will probably be boxing top spots in the northwest before long. Buddy Sloan put a stop to Eddie Munjar's comeback aspirations by soundly trouncing the White Sulphur Springs fighter in four rounds. This fight had the fans in an uproar as it was a real slugging match. Although Sloan had Munjar down several times, the iron-hearted scrapper came off the floor to put Sloan down for a nine count once. Eddie Lockett Butte's baker boy lost a four round decision to Dave O'Leary in the opening four rounder.

With the revival of boxing in Billings under the auspices of the Midland Empire Athletic Association, a newly formed club, boxing should get a good shot in the arm in the state of Montana. George Sterling of Billings, Lee Mains and Maurice Egan are operating this club with Mel Epstein making the matches. The club plans to operate once a month and with the American Legion doing likewise in Butte, there is no telling how soon Montana will develop another great fighter such as Stanley Ketchel, Joe Simonich, Frankie Wine, Dixie LaHood, Al Webster, and Hubert "Kid" Dennis.

IDAHO FISTIC FACTS
By Hugh Sutton

BUTTE, Mont. Dec. 15—Lightweight Jimmy Grow, Boise Junior college student, stopped Jerry Strutz of Portland in the fifth round of a 6-rounder semi-final.

Grow had Strutz down for the eight-count in the fourth, which was the only knock-down of the fight. In the fifth, at 2:15, the referee called the fight off, as Strutz was badly shaken up, by the sharp punching of Grow.

Boise, Idaho, Riverside Arena, Dec. 19—Mickey Rhodes, Boise middleweight, making his first showing since his venture in the Eastern rings, did what every manager wants, by cooling Sonny Bracken, ex-golden gloves champ. Bracken, of Mountain Home AFB, started out well, but evidently ran out of gas. Rhodes put Sonny down twice in the 3rd and final round. This was enough for the Air Force boy, as he failed to appear in the fourth.

Jimmy Grow, 132, racked up his second KO of the week, by putting Charley Harrison, 139, in cold-storage in 1:48 of the fourth. Grow had Harrison down twice in this final round.

In the special four-rounder, Kenny Johnson of the Mountain Home "fly-boy" base, looked pretty classy against the Boise boy, Warn Culver. Johnson had Culver down and in very bad shape at the end of the second and Culver was unable to come out for the third.

In the other two four-round prelims, George Mocaby of Boise fought to a draw with Jim Brown of the air base and brother Blaine Mocaby lost a decision to Artie Brown of the air base.

This was the first Boise card in six months, for promoter Tex Hager. A near capacity crowd showed this was what they wanted.

Kennewick, Wash., Dec. 21—Jimmy Grow, back again for his third KO of the month, polished off Manuel Nito of Sandpoint, Idaho.

IT HAPPENED IN WISCONSIN
With Pinky Mitchell
Former World Junior Welterweight Champion

There were no professional boxing bouts in the state last month but the gymnasiums were full of lads training for the Milwaukee Journal Golden Gloves Tournament. Charles Nevada, director of the tournament says there will be 12 nights of boxing with finals at the Arena, Feb. 13th.

Marshfield and Fond du lac will have three nights each of competition and Escanaba, Mich., two. Their winners will compete at Milwaukee in the finals. Kenneth Gunderson will direct the Escanaba boys, Ed Zappen the Marshfield and James Magellas, Oscar Nimmer and Al Jaggard will handle the Fond du lac boxers.

Roundy Coughlin, sports columnist on the Madison State Journal, has retired. Gov. Walter J. Kohler appointed Wm. B. Goodsitt, Madison attorney to the boxing commission.

Goodsitt boxed at the University of Wisconsin and was beaten by Willie Pelligrini in the Olympic tryouts at Chicago.

With the appointment of Goodsitt, the Wisconsin Commission now has four former boxers on the commission. The others are Gil Jackson, Joey Sangor and Savior Canadeo. The 5th member is Harvey Buchannan.

BOXING NEWS FROM LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY
By Joe Martin

COLONEL ROCKY MARCIANO (and I do mean colonel as Marciano was made a Kentucky Colonel while here this month by the Governor of Kentucky), the world's heavyweight boxing champion, appeared at the Armory in a four-round exhibition against two sparring partners, Toxie Hall of Chicago and Bob Golden of Denver. Marciano made a hit with the folks of Kentucky. After the exhibition he sat quietly in his dressing room signing autographs for the youngsters and he gave a smile with each signature and each kid was as happy as if he had been given a new toy.

The main support to the exhibition came from four one-fall wrestling matches and a four-round bout between Eddie Cooper of Louisville and Jack Ingram of Indianapolis which Cooper won on a knock-out in the second round. They were feather-weights.

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NEWS FROM SUNNY AUSTRALIA

By Ray Mitchell

THE last fight of the year in Australia is over, and in it Trevor King, the number one contender for the Australian featherweight title, beat the champion, Elley Bennett pointless in an overweight bout. The conttest took place in Sydney, and what made Trevor's performance more creditable, was the fact that he had a boil on his arm and had to have penicillin injections before the fight. Around about the sixth round, the needles wore off and Trevor felt sick, yet he continued to out-box Elley for the remainder of the 12-round contest.

By his victory, Trevor has fullfilled a prediction I made some two years ago. I have many times written about Trevor as a title certainty and he gets his chance at Elley's crown early in 1954. King has had 10 fights this year, winning the lot, 8 being by K.O. Throughout his career, he has had 52 fights, losing but one, a decision he reversed in a later meeting. So virtually he is undefeated. I would like to see King fight for the British Empire title. We have two Empire champions and I think King and our welter champion, George Barnes, could bring the total to four.

During 1953, there were the usual good fights, poor ones and surprising victories, although only one result could be called an upset. That fight took place in Melbourne in December and the participants were the Australian and Empire champion, Pat Ford, and the Spanish importation, Augustin Argote. It ended with Ford taking the full count in round four. But, without taking credit from the Spaniard, who executed a beautiful punch which would have dropped any lightweight, the fault lay with Ford. He dominated the contest from the opening bell and was getting very cocksure of himself. Pat thought he so dominated his opponent that he could end it when he liked. Thus he became careless. Ford has had two defeats in 22 fights and he wiped out his earlier defeat. Only twice has he been taken the full distance.

During the month the Sydney Stadium was packed for the first time in 1953 when George Barnes defended his title against Tommy Burns. There is no doubt about Tommy's ability to pack 'em in. He has pulled full houses in almost every fight. It was the first time Barnes has fought before a packed house in a main bout. Burns seems to have reached the end of the trail. Barnes knocked him out in the eleventh round with a perfect right uppercut, which Burns did not see coming. It was only the third time in his 17 years of glove warfare that Burns has been stopped. His reflexes have gone. That is a sure portent to hang up the gloves. Each fighter for this fight received $5,222.

In Melbourne, Trevor King K.O.d Young Regan, the number two contender for the Australian featherweight title, in the fourth round. In Brisbane, Australia's bantam champion, Bobby Sinn had an easy night with Ric Padernal, Filipino. Bobby, who has been matched with Carruthers for January, K.O.d Padernal in the fifth round.

N. S. W. heavyweight champion, Allen Williams, who recently beat the Australian champion, knocked out Doug Brown in the 13th round of a state title tilt at Broken Hill.

In Wollongong, Darby Brown knocked out the former welter champion, George Kapeen, in the eighth round of a good fight.

At Newcastle Sports Ground, Bruce Farthing outpointed Carlo Marchini.

In Cessnock Alfie Sands knocked out Jack Smith in the first round. At Newcastle, Alfie Sands outpointed Pat Kenny, a rising middleweight, over 12 rounds.

In New Zealand, the Aussie Heavy champ, Ken Brady, outpoinnted Chub Keith.

In Melbourne, Frank Flannery outpointed Jackie Ryan.

In Brisbane, Elley Bennett, fighting as a lightweight, outpointed Americo Agostini in a good fight.

Sydney saw a rugged fight when American, Marshall Clayton outpointed Pran Mikus, while a week or two later, Leo Brennan, a rated welter, knocked out Zac Rakici in the second round.

In Brisbane, Ed Francis rose several pegs in the welter ladder when he stopped tough Graham Moffatt in the fourth round. Also in Brisbane, Alan Ritchie, who has fought more fights, preliminary and main, than any other fighter here in 1953, was held to a draw by Jim Shackleton, a rising feather.

That covers the month's results, so now to a brief coverage of the year's highlights. There was one world title tilt held in Australia, three Empire title bouts, and 15 Australian title tilts. The world title fight, of course, was between Jimmy Carruthers and Pappy Gault, who drew 32,000 fans into the open-air Sports Ground in Sydney. Gault received 8,333 dollars and Carruthers, $19,-166. Jimmy retained his title with the easiest of wins. I would like to see Bobby Sinn against Gault. It would be a great fight and an even-money bet.

The three Empire title bouts were in the lightweight division. Englishman, Frank Johnson won the vacant crown when he knocked out Frank Flannery in 10 in Melbourne. Then he lost his crown to Pat Ford, who outpointed Johnson over 15. In a return between Ford and Johnson, Ford won by a K.O. in the 13th. Johnson was out for over five minutes.

There were six new Australian champions crowned. Young Regan won the bantam crown after Carruthers relinquished it, by knocking out Kevin James in the 12th. Then Regan was K.O.d by Bobby Sinn, who held it in a return, also by K.O. Pat Ford won the lightweight diadem by knocking out Frank Flannery in the 10th, before Pat beat Johnson. Pat defended his crown against Jackie Ryan, by a K.O. in the 10th. George Kapeen won the vacant welter crown by K.O. in 10 over Bernie Hall, but relinquished it after he had been stopped by both George Barnes and Pran Mikus in overweight bouts.

George Barnes won the welter title by outpointing Pran Mikus and defended by K.O. over Tommy Burns in 11. Ken Brady won the heavyweight crown by K.O. over Reg Mack and defended by K.O. in four over Cec Meredith. Brady was outpointed by Allen Williams in a non-title tilt.

Other title tilts resulted in champions successfully defending their crowns. Elley Bennett K.O.d Col Douglas in four in defense of the feather throne, while Al Bourke was successful in four defences of his middleweight belt, outpointing Alfie Sands and knocking out Carlo Marchini, Graham Higham and Don Johnson.

Best fights of the year were the Johnson-Flannery, Burns-Mikus, Barnes-Mikus, Barnes-Clayton, Ford-Flannery.

Most unusual happenings were: The K.O. after the bell, of Don Johnson by Alfie Sands. This fight was one in which the rule book was torn to shreds.

Alfie Sands was the busiest main-event fighter. He had 14 fights. Bobby Sinn and Trevor King had the best records for the year. Bobby had eight fights, winning the lot by K.O., while Trevor scored 8 K.O. victories in an unbeaten run of 10 fights.

There were two deaths from fights during the year. Both were lightweights. John Slockie died after being stopped in the 12th round by Dickie Lowe, and Roy Chapman died after being outpointed by Tony Fisher. An interesting point is that neither of the victors was noted as a puncher, hence death could not be placed at that door.

Head of Stadiums Ltd., John Wren, died at the age of 83. Wren was a millionaire and had delved into sport for most of his life.

A new promotional body was set up—apart from the Police Boys' Club, who promoted only one fight, the Carruthers-Gault. This new body, under Art Mawson, calls itself the Australian Boxing Club and has promoted contests in several country cities, in open-air and closed-in stadiums. It has big plans and will do a lot of good for boxing in this country. They intend to match Jimmy Carruthers with an overseas opponent in the New Year. Billy Peacock and Gianni Zuddas have been mentioned.

Several good prospects arose. Middleweight, Graham Highan, with one loss in five fights, and that to the champion, looks the best 160 pounder prospect.

Ray Richards, a welter who should soon grow into a middle, packs a punch and is extremely tough. Maestro Jack Dunleavy hopes to make an Australian champion out of him. Probably will, too.

In the lightweight division, there are Col Clarke and Brian Membrey.

Flyweights Teddy Rainbow and Paul Prido look good enough to rise much higher. Probably the best of these is Col Clarke. Col is 18 and has had eleven fights, winning the lot inside four rounds. Balance is his biggest fault, but he will learn. Give a good trainer a boy who can punch and take it, and he will make him into a champion. And Clarke has a good trainer in Bill Lawrence, who is trainer of Trevor King and Allen Williams.

George Barnes made history when he won the welter title. He is the only son of a former champion who has won a National title. His father fought under the name "Frank Burns" and won the Australian middleweight crown over 30 years ago. He watches all George's fights.

Several Aussies fought with success and otherwise, in New Zealand, while four fought in Singapore. Some dozen importations fought in Australia, losing far more contests than they won. The best was Freddie Dawson, who retained his unbeaten run in this country. He has now made four visits to Australia. Very popular is Marshall Clayton, who has won one of his four fights here. He always puts on a good show and should make a lot of money before he has finished here.

As we enter 1954, big things are lined up for Australian boxing. They centre around Carruthers, Barnes and Ford. Pat Ford will fight many importations and will seek world honours. As we see it from here, 1954 could be a boom year for Australian boxing.

My address is 24 Milburn Rd., Gymea, N.S.W., Australia. Please note the change.

CALGARY FIGHT NEWS

By Sugar Ray Edwards

COMMENCING the New Year and continuing on with THE FIGHT FRONT, we will give local fight fans and the rest of the fighting world a highlight review of the Calgary fight scene throughout 1953.

The Fights in Calgary promoted by Ernie Farr during the last six or seven years have advanced many boys on to bigger and better things in the fighting world. Farr has brought Calgary a long way since starting promoting here in 1946. Many of his fighters have gained titles and have fought in England and all through the United States. Some have battled under the big arclights of Madison Square Garden.

Others have left the gym knowing the art of self-defense to become better citizens, holding the respect of others. We should congratulate Mr. Farr for developing such men.

Ernie holding the year's last fight card in December, featured Irish Bill Brenner and Joey Aguilar. The hard punching Brenner stopped Aguilar in the 9th round.

A well supported undercard was matched, which saw: Doer Ludwig, 198 Calgary, stop Bill Repp, 190, Calgary; Tony Greg, 125, Seattle, decisioned Emil Flammond, 126, Calgary.

The semi-windup featured Murray Vinie garnering a draw with Lil Papa Brown.

Here are the Highlights of 1953—

January 13—Ernie Kemick of Calgary defeated Ernie Greer of Oakland, California, in a close 10 round split decision.

February 5—Lou Lawrence of Vancouver fought to a draw with Harry (Kid) Poulton of Prince Edward Island.

February 27—Harry (Kid) Poulton and Dick Wolfe of Portland fought to a draw.

March 19—Harry (Kid) Poulton lost a split decision to Lou Lawrence at the Stampede Corral.

April 9—Ernie Kemick won a 10 round decision over former bantamweight champion of the world, Harold Dade of Los Angeles.

April 28—Johnny Salkeld of Calgary KO'd Ernie Kemick of Calgary in three rounds.

May 19—Lou Lawrence won a split decision over Irish Bill Brenner of Vancouver.

June 19—Bill Brenner KO'd Chico Aguilar of Seattle in five rounds.

September 29—Georgie Dunn formerly of Hartford, Conn. and now of Edmonton won a decision from Mario Trigo.

October 30—Jimmy Byrne of Seattle won a close 10 round decision over Calgary's Doug Harper.

November 17—Calgary's Doug Harper won the light heavyweight championship of Canada by defeating Yvon Durelle of Bai St. Anne, New Brunswick in 12 rounds.

December 15—Bill Brenner KO'd Joe Aguilar in 9 rounds.

Now the big one of the year, was the Harper versus Durelle scrap in which Harper won the Canadian light heavyweight championship over the 12 round route.

LITTLE RHODY'S FISTIC HIGHLIGHTS

By Eddie Beck

PROMOTER Manny Almeida returned to the Arcadia after five shows at the spacious R. I. Auditorium. Manny's first card at the Arcadia featured twin ten-rounders between Bill Gilliam and Chubby Wright, and Charley Earley and Willio Johnson.

George Araujo, local leading lightweight, has transferred his training headquarters to New York where co-manager Sammy Richman can supervise.

Chubby Gomes, unbeaten local feather, injured his back in training. Tommy Smith, local middle, scored 2 snappy victories over Willie Gray and Jackie Wilson.

IN AND AROUND CHICAGO
By Lenny Myers

THE 1953 boxing season ended here with many fine shows promoted by the International Boxing Club and also by promoter Irving Schoenwald at his Rainbo Arena. Three new clubs may open here within the next few months. Here are the year-end results:

At Rainbo Arena—In a featured eight round event, Jed Black, 146½, Janesville, Wisconsin, won a close decision in eight rounds over Norm Webb, 146½, Chicago. The bout was hard fought all the way. A rematch would make a good attraction.

In another eight spot Chuck Adkins, 137½, Gary, Indiana, pounded out the decision over Tommy Maddox, 140, Chicago, in a thrilling affair. Adkins looked very strong and punched too hard for his stringbean foe. Carlo Sarlo, 146, Chicago, beat George James, 149, Chicago, in four fast rounds. Ed Jones, 170½, Chicago, won in four over Tommy Merrill, 166, Philadelphia. Dick Brewer, 144½, Chicago, fought to a standstill in four heats with Danny Vigo, 146, Chicago.

Your writer thanks you for the many greetings received last month. It is indeed a pleasure to know the fact that this column is being read in so many places around the world.

At Rainbo Arena on December 15, the International Boxing Club and Irving Schoenwald presented Bob Satterfield against Ray Augustus in an eight round feature. Satterfield, weighing 184, proved much too tough for his older opponent and knocked him out in the final round. Augustus was counted out midway in the eighth round after being hit with a terrific left hook on the chin. Augustus weighed 176 pounds. He hails from Topeka, Kansas.

In other bouts, Bobby Boyd, 159, Chicago, scored a kayo in three heats over Henry Henderson, 155, Kansas City, in a bout slated for eight rounds. Boyd was much too clever for his awkward foe who looked very sluggish.

Spider Webb, 160, Chicago, won in four from Lloyd Triplett, 160, Milwaukee, in a fast bout. Danny Lullo, 159, Chicago, got off the floor to knock out Bobby Brown, 155, New Orleans, in the 1st round of a four spot. Cyril Kelly, 154, New Orleans, beat Harry Campbell, 154, Chicago, in the four round opener.

On the card at Rainbo Arena on December 15th, Dick Powell, 130, Chicago, and Russell Tague, 131, Eldridge, Iowa, fought five rounds to a draw. Tague, an overwhelming favorite, was handed a surprise by the youngster who was boxing his third professional bout against some 39 bouts for Tague, who was beaten only once in his career. Powell boxed cleverly and looked very impressive. He is managed by likeable Bob Anderson and **Pop Howard.**

Teddy Ordanik, popular fight manager from Fairborn, Ohio, is busy sending out a challenge to the top featherweights to meet his star featherweight, Davey Moore. Moore, a former Golden Glove champion and former National A.A.U. Champion, who represented the United States in the Olympics in Helsinki, Finland, last year, looks like the prospect of 1953. Interested parties may contact this writer for the services of Davy Moore.

On December 29, coming back to the Rainbo Arena where he is a big favorite with local fans, King Solomon, 162, Chicago, stopped Jimmy Elby, 163, Toledo, Ohio, in the eighth round. The bout was close all the way, but a badly cut nose that was opened up in the fourth round, caused the referee to halt the bout between the seventh and eighth round. Elby's nose bled freely in every round from the fourth on. A rematch would again draw well.

In another eight round bout, Johnny Brown, 150, Chicago, won all eight rounds from Sam Kelly, 153, Chicago. Brown outboxed and outpunched his opponent in every round. Carlo Sarlo, 146½, Chicago, and Billy Gillespie, 152½, Benton Harbor, went four fast rounds to a draw. Spider Webb, 158, Los Angeles, stopped Jesse Gray, 160, Chicago, in the 3rd round. Jim Chambers, 174, Chicago, outpunched Al Williams, 175, Chicago, in four rounds. Over fourteen hundred fans paid a gross of $3500.00 to see the non-televised show.

At Minneapolis, Minn. on December 30. At Minneapolis on the Del Flanagan-Johnny Saxon card, Dick Powell, Chicago featherweight, and Pete Kawuliw, 130, Minneapolis, went four rounds to a draw. Powell looked real good and made a hit with the fans. . . .

Frankie Tomaso has taken over John Gray, heavyweight. This is the boy who won the Rocky Marciano tournament last year. Tomaso expects to start the boy professional early in 1954. . . .

Your writer was recently appointed American representative to Panama. With boxing on the upgrade in the Republic of Panama, it is my desire to send top notch fighters to box in that area. At present boys like Paddy DeMarco, Davey Galardo, Willie Pep, and others who are known nationally would make a big hit in the Republic. Managers of good main-event fighters interested in making a trip to Panama should contact yours truly. Featherweights and lightweights only are wanted.

Jack "Doc" Kearns, former manager of world champions has moved into his new home in Miami, Florida. It was his doctor's orders for old Doc to get plenty of sunshine. For his many friends who have written for his new address, contact Doc at, 640 Northeast 55th St., Miami, Florida. . . .

Irving Schoenwald, veteran Chicago boxing promoter, was recently appointed matchmaker for the International Boxing Club's talent department. Irv, an old timer in the game, knows his boxing and will no doubt do an excellent job in this department. This corner wishes to congratulate the I.B.C. on its selection.

AROUND TOWN—Frankie Frisco, former featherweight boxer has been hired to train several youngsters for Al DeRose. . . . Harry Zwick enthused about his Marvin Day who is displaying class and ability in daily workouts at Johnny Coulon's Gym. . . . Mrs. Johnny Coulon still is rated as the best woman boxing expert in these United States. She hasn't missed a day in the Gym in more years than she cares to recall. . . . Sammy Rosenberg recalls his great battles with Sammy Frager, Johnny Hill, and Chuck Woods. Sammy won 41 bouts without a defeat.

Remember, the time is at hand if you are going to order your Ring Record Book. They sell out fast, so get your order into THE RING office now. Without one you are lost in this boxing business. I repeat, I am co-manager of Davey Moore, a potential champion who has won 14 of 15 professional bouts. Moore, at 126 pounds will meet any featherweight in the world. Contact me soon for this two-fisted action packed performer. My address is, 1006 West Dakin Street, Phone, Lake View 5-1723, Chicago, 13, Illinois, U.S.A.

IOWA, SOUTH DAKOTA SPARKS
By Bill Hawkins

FISTIC interest around South Dakota and Iowa at this writing centers around the various Golden Gloves boxing tournaments. In Des Moines, Ia., Al Couppee, KRNT sports director and gloves tourney, is handling the Golden Gloves competition. Several former champions are among those seeking titles in the 1954 tournament which is now under way.

George Parnassus, Sioux City boxing and wrestling promoter and manager of several top-ranking fighters has announced that his heavyweight fighter, Tommy Harrison, will open a campaign in Canadian rings. Along about the time this hits the press, Harrison will be meeting Earl Walls, the Canadian heavyweight champ, at Toronto. Parnassus also announced that as soon as the Golden Gloves tourney is over with, professional boxing will return to Sioux City. Boxing fans have swamped Parnassus with letters wanting to see some big time matches.

REMEMBER OUR ADDRESS IS 2206 N. LAFAYETTE ST., SIOUX CITY, IOWA AND NEWS FOR THIS SPOT MUST BE IN MY HANDS BY THE 4th of each month. If you wish to phone your news in call 8-6849.

LAST MINUTE SPARKS.—Regret that owing to lack of space we are unable to carry the results of the many amateur boxing shows around South Dakota and Iowa. . . We will give you the champions of the sectionals in the future issues of the Ring. . . Wrestling is still the top drawing card in sports around this area. . . At Marengo, Ia., The Fish and Game Club will sponsor a Golden Gloves Boxing card, giving the youngsters around there a chance to try out their fistic ability. . . Sailor Burke, veteran Sioux City boxer and manager was home for a few days during the Holidays. . . Burke was in a hospital for several months in Nebraska and returned after visiting with his folks and meeting old friends. . . He announced that he is manager of Jerry Moore, Sioux City featherweight and former Golden Glover who has entered the professional ranks. . .

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BOXING IN SOUTH TEXAS
By Harlan Haas

WILLIE PEP, the one and only, breezed into Houston and promptly proceeded to knock off Billy Lima in two rounds. Pep got it on from the start, there was no messin' around, he was the boxing master, the classiest ring performer ever seen in Houston. Pep stated before the fight that he was going to end it as soon as possible, and he went about the task as if he meant it. Twice in the first round Lima was sent crashing to the canvas, the second time he lay motionless as the bell rang. Pep had blasted him with terrific right hand to the chin. The courageous Lima proved to one and all that he is no quitter, for he came out tossing leather from all directions in the second, but the ex boss of the feathers presented an elusive target, and suddenly Wee Willie crashed home a short jolting right hand to the jaw as his opponent rushed in. Lima went down, rolled over on his back, and the referee didn't even bother to count, as he raised Pep's hand in token of victory. Wee Willie came in at 129, Lima at 132.

The undercard featured a quartet of six round battles which were well received by the 2,000 fight patrons. In the top six, Tobe Harris, 156, mauled his way to a win over Billy Trero, 159, Houston. Otho Sligar, 140, Houston, and George Easterling, 138, Port Arthur, battled to a hard fought draw. Stan Jones, 150, Houston, hammered out a decision over Johnny Wells, 145, Boston and Seattle, in perhaps the best six of the night. In the opening battle Clarence Cook, 155, Monroe, La., banged out a win over the veteran Baby Valdez, 149, Eagle Lake.

Paul Jorgenson, the brilliant boxing youngster from Port Arthur, going ten rounds for the first time outboxed Bobby Garza in the early rounds, then really turned on the team in the final three heats to have the tough Corpus Christi lad in constant trouble. Just before the bell sounded ending the ninth session, Jorgenson sunk a right hand-wrist deep in Garza's stomach. The bell rang, and Garza slowly sank to the deck. He had to be hauled to his corner, but was able to come out for the tenth. Jorgenson continued to hammer him around the ring during the final round, and copped the unanimous decision. The Port Arthur swiftie came in at 134, Garza tipped the beam at 132.

In a scheduled six rounder, Stan Jones, 155, Houston, handed Joe Robinson, 155, veteran local boy, a real pasting before the referee humanely halted the one sided affair in the second round, with Robinson on the deck. Joe was making his first start in several years.

Terry Smith, 136, Detroit, possibly the South's most active fighter, dropped a close five rounder to fast moving Tony "Baby" Garcia, 130, Corpus Christi. In a four rounder Johnny Wells, 142, Boston, lost a split verdict to Lloyd Nelson, 153, Houston. In the opener, Baby Valdez, 149, Eagle Lake, trounced long time local prelim boy, Pete Sanchez, 148.

The final fight card of the year in Houston took place December 29, and Otho Sligar, 140, Houston, jabbed and moved for ten rounds in taking a split decision from aggressive George Easterling, 138, Port Arthur. The veteran Sligar was in command during the early rounds, but the sharp punching Easterling rallied in the final three sessions to almost draw up even. It was Sligar's first ten round bout since 1947, when he dropped a close one to Raymond Serrano, who was State lightweight boss at the time.

In the semi-final six, Stan Jones, 156, Houston, experienced little difficulty in gaining a unanimous decision over Lloyd Nelson, 156, Houston. Jones turned tiger in the sixth. Only Nelson's ability to take a punch, and a fighting heart kept him from being belted into dreamland during that hectic final round.

The top four saw the return to action of that thrill providing prelim boy, Jimmy Kinnard, 134, Houston, and as usual he participated in a knock down-drag out brawl in swapping punches with another crowd pleaser, Bobby Henry, 132, Orange. Henry made two trips to the deck, and Kinnard was dropped for eight in the final round of a real thriller. The bout was declared a draw. Another four saw Terry Smith, 145, Detroit, break his arm in the second round, then use an efficient left jab and a pair of fast feet, to gain a decision over veteran Frankie Wallace, 145, Houston. It took plenty of intestinal fortitude to stick around for over two rounds after breaking the arm in two places, but then Terry Smith showed he has what it takes while fighting for keeps in Korea with the 45th Division, where he had an impressive war record.

In the curtain raiser, which was action packed while it lasted, Mutt Dennis, 122, Houston, stopped Buddy Holden, 125, Houston, in the first round. Both were on the deck.

Promoter Ralph Smith, the hard working Houston promoter, has decided to move his fistic headquarters to Galveston, where he will have presented his first show as we go to press. There are several reasons for Promoter Smith's vacating Houston for Galveston. One, the Ringside Club is too small. Two, Galveston's City Auditorium which has approximately the same seating capacity as Houston's, can be had for less money. There, he gets the concession rights in Galveston, he did not in Houston. Also, Galveston is only a forty five minute drive from Houston. Therefore, it looks as if Houston will be dark for the first time in fifteen months. During the year 1953, Promoter Smith presented local fans with a fight card every Tuesday night, with the exception of December 22.

During the year 1953 many of our local scrappers progressed rapidly. Johnny McCray, the sensational welterweight from Birmingham, won all twelve of his battles, Paul Jorgenson racked up ten straight, George Peyton, local heavy, had seven straight, and Stan Jones had twelve victories, one loss, and one draw. That's a combined record of 41 victories, 1 loss, and 1 draw. Not bad.

Hats off to Otho Sligar, a ten year veteran at the age of 26, who is making fine progress now that he is in top shape, under the direction of Perry Payne. . . . It's good to see Jimmy Kinnard, local lightweight, back in action. Jimmy can really thump with the right hand, and when he gets in there something's gotta go. . . . Tino "The Bull" Longoria made a big hit in Florida with a ten round decision over Bobby Elliott, and then went back out there to fight Bobby Dykes.

Johnny McCray, the skinny Irish lad with the big punch, has resumed training and is anxious to swap punches with some of the "name" fighters. McCray has the ability, and if in top shape, he may well carve a niche for himself among the welterweight ranks in 1954. Jot the Irishman's name down, you'll be hearing from him.

Stanley Jones, Houston's rugged middleweight, who has only three losses in seven years of pro fighting, is definitely a boy to watch. Jones is only 25 years old, and is beginning to come on, a very dangerous puncher, with a powerful frame that enables him to bull in close where he really rips and tears. Although mixed matches are prohibited in Texas at this time, there is much talk going around that this may be changed. Surely, Stanley Jones is one of the best middleweights in the Lone Star State, if not the best. Promoters about the country could do okay for themselves by topping their card with the hard hitting Jones.

The writer can be reached at 4903 Laurel, Bellaire, Texas. Will be glad to furnish information concerning the fight game in this vicinity.

NEW ORLEANS AND THE SOUTH
By "Broadway" Johnny Cox

PADDY DE MARCO, crowd pleasing Brooklyn, N. Y. challenger, moved higher up the lightweight ladder on Saturday night, January 2, when the strong Italian, making his Southern debut, pounded out a split decision over the No. 3 contender, 18 year old Ralph Dupas, Nicholls High school student. It was the first live televised professional fistic fight out of New Orleans with this area blacked out. The fight was staged at Municipal Auditorium.

The local promotion was handled by promoter Allen LaCombe, assisted by Louis Messina, who promoted here for many years and who is well connected nationally. The profits were split with the three promoters, LaCombe, Bonnie Geigerman and Heard Ragas.

DeMarco's aggressiveness won Paddy the battle. Paddy was awkward to hit and he did not allow Dupas to keep him in the center of the ring where Dupas shines. DeMarco tired a little in the final rounds. He landed the hardest punches and Dupas was ineffective on the inside. The DeMarco defeat was no disgrace to Ralph and he should not take the loss to heart as he was meeting one of the most experienced fighters in the game and as strong a junior welterweight as there is around.

I am of the opinion that Ralph has outgrown the lightweight division and will have to campaign as a junior welterweight soon. After a long training siege for the DeMarco battle, Dupas came in at 139 pounds, while DeMarco scaled at 138½ pounds.

Referee Eddie "Kid" Wolfe, once a near champion, handled the bout in perfect form. Wolfe awarded DeMarco five rounds, Dupas three heats and two even. Judge Pete Giaruso voted six rounds for DeMarco and four frames for Dupas. Judge Francis Kercheval cast his ballot six rounds for Dupas and four for DeMarco.

On my tab I had DeMarco winning seven rounds and three for Dupas.

It was a splendid fight before a big audience and a perfect decision which left the customers in a happy mood for the initial televised fight staged here.

8000 fans paid a gross gate of $17,360 to witness the card.

In the six round semi-final, Kenny Lane, a new face hailing from Muskegon, Mich., and managed by Pete Petroskey, a one time lightweight, made his local start a winning one by scoring a unanimous six round decision over Mike Turcotte, stablemate of Dupas. Both are southpaws. Lane impressed the fans as a comer he has won 18 bouts in 19 fistic starts. Lane scaled, 132, Turcotte, 131 pounds.

Hector Bacuetes, Algiers, La., crowd pleaser, scaling 133¼, won a four round decision over Clyde Mayberry, Pittsburgh, Pa., 138¼ pounds. Benny Dimarco, New Orleans, 150¾, won a split four round decision over Alvin Boudreaux, 153¾ pounds. Boudreaux is from Westwego, La.

John Hunt, Westwego, La., 185½ pounds, scored a two round kayo in 30 seconds of the second round of a four rounder over Stillman "Snake" St. Pierre, LaRose, La., 190 pounds. "Speedy" Davidson, local 124¼ pounder, continued on his winning ways scoring a three round tko over Roy Hernandez, Houston, Tex., who scaled 129 pounds.

Local promoters now have four solid drawing cards in DeMarco, Dupas, Brian Kelly and Phil Kim.

TOLEDO FISTIC HEADLINES
By Hal Grothjan

PEDRO GONZALES, a classy young Pittsburg middleweight, pounded out a unanimous 10-round decision over Nenos (King) Solomon, Chicago, in the main event of a club show staged here December 15.

The card was presented by Sid Goldberg, in hopes that a low priced show with no big names would stir up boxing interest in Toledo. Goldberg even promised a money-back guarantee to any fan who was not satisfied with the main event. It seems Toledo is not a good boxing town because the only big gates here are when rainking contenders meet.

Gonzales, a 20-year old speed merchant with a granite jaw, used his left hand effectively to ward off the bull-like rushes of the burly Solomon. Pedro's victory was unanimous but still close.

Johnny Eubanks, a stablemate of Gonzales, got off the floor in the second round and dropped Detroiter Billy Sinn twice to gain a unanimous six-round decision. Eubanks threw few punches but most of them were very effective. It was a welterweight bout.

Eddie Smith, 165, Detroit, dropped Toledo's Ray Young, 171, twice in the opening round and when Young again hit the canvas in the second ref Johnny Weber halted the fight. Jackie Richards, a talented Detroit boxer, won with ease over Roy Carruthers of Akron by a second third round KO. In the third Richards dumped Roy twice, the clincher being a right to the body. Tommy Parrasz of Toledo and Frank Sak of Detroit battled to a crowd-pleasing draw in the welterweight 4-round opener.

Al Andrews, 152¾, of Superior, Wis., scored a lopsided decision over Pat Lowry, 147¾, Toledo, in the feature ten rounder at Detroit on December 17.

Andrews, one of the cleverest fighters in these parts, sped to his third win over Lowry by a 50-second third round KO. In the third early stages in the fight and then he beat Lowry at his own game, swapping punch for punch in the later rounds.

Andrews, the former 5th Army champ who holds two wins over Chuck Davey, used every punch and maneuver in the book and made it look easy in breaking Lowry's six-bout winning streak. This writer did not give Lowry a single round. Lowry now has a 32-5 record with 26 KO's but he seems to be at a standstill as far as improvement goes.

The lack of pro activity is being supplanted by many Amateur cards hereabouts as the simon pures sweat and toil in preparation for the Toledo Times sponsored Golden Gloves this month. The Toledo Glovers each year compiled an excellent record in the Tournament of Champions in Chicago. Last year Herbie Mickles won national acclaim. He captured first place in the Chicago tourney, beat his New York opponent in the inter-city matches, then won the international crown by defeating Terry Mulligan of Ireland, the defending champ.

This writer can be reached at 3617 Bellevue, Toledo.

FISTIC HEADLINES IN MICHIGAN

By Jack Waina

FOLLOWING a careful survey of the performances of all state boxers during the past year, I have compiled these ratings for this vicinity:

Heavyweights: 1. Embrell Davidson; 2. Johnny Summerlin (soon to be discharged from the army, currently a physical education instructor); 3. George Powell; 4. Marty Marshall; 5. Ring Harris; 6. Ken Hammer; 7. Oscar Pharo; 8. Herb Ellison; 9. Al Hunter; 10. Noel Reid.

Lightheavyweights: 1. Bob Amos; 2. Arthur Wright; 3. Chuck Speiser (currently serving in the army); 4. John Dean; 5. Bobby Yore; 6. Doug Hale; 7. James Johnson; 8. Jerry Nelson.

Middleweights: 1. Moses Ward; 2. Ray Barnes; 3. Billy Tisdale; 4. Eddie Smith; 5. Billy Sinn; 6. Chuck Coleman; 7. Laure Harvey; 8. Henry Hank; 9. Bobby Evans; 10. Tommy Leedle.

Welterweights: 1. Lester Felton; 2. Allie Gronik; 3. Chuck Davey; 4. Harold Lyons; 5. Tommy Matthews; 6. Henry Bronko; 7. Chuck Price; 8. Jackie Fisher; 9. Duke Harris; 10. Adrian Hefel.

Lightweights: 1. Harold Jones; 2. Sammy Rodgers; 3. Kenny Lane; 4. Jesse Underwood (or Dave Shade); 5. John Barnes; 6. Bobby Brooks; 7. John Valentine; 8. Harry Clay.

Featherweights: 1. Auburn Copeland; 2. Dave Rollins; 3. Raul Prado; 4. Nelson Foreman; 5. Dick Cassady; 6. Walter Daykers; 7. Dennis Wilson; 8. Tony Beltrante.

Al Andrews, 152¼, Superior, Wis., gained his third straight victory over Pat Lowry, 147¼, Toledo, in a decisive manner over the ten round distance, featuring a MC boxing club program staged at the State Fair Grounds Coliseum, in Detroit on December 17. Not only did he outbox his opponent, but Andrews outslugged him and stood toe-to-toe getting the better of the exchanges on almost each account.

In a clash for the state welterweight championship, Allie Gronik, 146¼, Lincoln Park, had too much experience for game Harold Lyons, 145¾, Detroit. Lyons showed a lot of heart, but couldn't offset Gronik's varied assortment of punches. Allie, one of the toughest in the business, cut up Lyons badly and although Harold was never down, referee Herman Spinelli stopped the bout, awarding the Lincoln Parker a TKO at 2:05 of the eighth round.

As was anticipated, Embrell Davidson, 209¼, Detroit, packed too many guns for George Powell, 186¼, Detroit, in the latter's first defense of his State title. Davidson decked his fellow townsman five times, once in the third, fourth, seventh and twice in the eighth, when the contest was stopped at 2:58.

A crowd of 7,388 fans turned out paying a gross of $19,667.90 and a net of $15,083 of which Andrews received 20% or $3,016, while Lowry settled for 12½% or $1,885. Five per cent was turned over to the Junior Chamber of Commerce for usage of the state owned Coliseum.

The best clash of the evening found Jimmy Riley's promising Henry Bronko, 154¼, Detroit, cleverly outslugging Chuck Price, 149¾, Detroit in a real war of six rounds. Eighteen year old Bronko, who fights like a veteran, gave the crowd a real treat.

In a dull four rounder, John Barnes, 136, Detroit, gained his third straight win over Bobby Brooks, 136¾, Detroit.

Senor Louie Newman had his good middleweight, Eddie Smith in Syracuse, New York, on the Carmen Basilio-Pierre Langlois card. Smith scored an impressive win in stopping a local favorite Casil Tate in two rounds.

In one of the surprise rulings of the year, Michigan boxing commissioner Floyd Stevens, suspended Norman Hayes following his bout with Garth Panter for the IBC at the Olympia Stadium. Floyd said that Hayes, who is currently serving in the United States army as a physical instructor, was not in physical condition. True that Norman wasn't in the finest condition possible, but he couldn't be entirely blamed. Stevens should have known that Hayes did not have the training advantages of a civilian and should have taken action before he was passed as fit by Stevens' medical advisor.

Getting on to the scrap between Hayes, 162½, Boston, and Panter, 160, Salt Lake City, Utah, it proved to be a good and interesting duel. Normal held his own in the opening rounds, but the strong man from Utah was persistent and grew stronger as the fight progressed.

Another ten rounder found Moses Ward, 162½, Detroit, forced to go the distance in gaining the duke over southpaw Jackie Wilson, 160½, Boston. Ward complained he injured his hand in the third round, but managed to open up in the final stanza and had his opponent in a gory mess.

Willie Williams, 158, Detroit, upset the highly-touted collegiate champion, Emmet Gurney, 155, Norfolk, Va., with a busy two fisted attack. Another six rounder, had Eddie Smith, 160, Detroit, outpointing veteran Jimmy Palmer, 162, Detroit. Clarence Siley, 160, Detroit, drew with Jackie Richards, in a four.

Genial Sid Goldberg, Toledo promoter, presented an action-packed program at the Sports Arena, in which Billy Sinn, Eddie Smith and Frank Sak, all Detroit fighters, played a prominent role. Sinn staged a real knockdown drag 'em out affair with Johnny Umbanks, Pittsburgh middleweight, before losing a close six rounder. Smith stopped Ray Young, Toledo lightheavy, in two, and welterweight Sak battled to a crowd pleasing draw with localite Tommy Parrasz in a four. The feature found Pedro Gonzales, Pittsburgh lightheavy, outslugging King Solmon, of Chicago, in a real war that pleased all the way.

In his most crucial test to date, Kenny Hammer, 191, Detroit, came to life and scored his most impressive win, a knockout over-enormous Noel (Bull) Reid, 230, Detroit, in the fifth round at the MCA. After a close first round, Reid was dealt a merciless pounding by Hammer and only Noel's courage permitted the bout to go beyond that stage, although it should have been stopped earlier.

The six round co-feature found Oscar Pharo, 187¼, Detroit, outpunching Frank DeGazio, 176, Niagara Falls, for a clear cut duke. Bobby Brooks, 142, Detroit, TKO'd Freddie Carr, 143½, Pontiac, in the first and Doug Hale, 177, Detroit, bested Alphonso Green, 165, Detroit, in four.

Scoring one of the best victories of his career, youthful Harold Lyons, Detroit welterweight, not only upset the State title hopes of Tommy Matthews, but became the first to have Matthews on the canvas in a five year pro career that covered 32 bouts, of which only two were recorded as defeats. Also it was Lyons' first start in five months!

Entering the ring a heavy favorite (4-1), Matthews made the bookmakers look good for two rounds. Then Lyons suddenly moved from long range to close fighting and used an effective body attack which paid off. In the fifth, Harold peppered Matthews with both hands to the body and then connected with a damaging left hook to the jaw followed by a right that sent Tommy sprawling to the canvas for the first time in his career. Matthews barley beat the count.

Matthews right optic was badly cut and he was not able to answer the bell for the eighth round, but Lyons was well out in front on the score cards of all the officials at the time, having battered his foe from pillar to post in the later rounds. The defeat was a tremendous setback to Matthews, who had gone through 15 straight clashes the past 2½ years unbeaten.

By defeating Adrian Hefel, 150½, Detroit, in a four, Chuck Price, 150, Detroit, squared accounts for an earlier loss. A cut eye halted Nelson Foreman, 131¼, Detroit, with Nickie Harrie, 132, Cleveland, gaining a TKO win in the third, and Eddie Bridges, 132, Pontiac, TKO'd Bob Rideout, 131, Windsor, in the fourth.

Kenny Lane, 136, Muskegon, got sweet revenge over Ronnie Stribling, 133, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, or Chicago, in an eight rounder at the Civic Auditorium in Grand Rapids. Stribling had stopped Lane's winning streak at 16 straight earlier, due to a cut eye at Lansing.

Tommy Leedle's fistic hopes received a setback at the hands of Jackie Fisher in their rematch. Fisher, 149, Grand Rapids, gained a close split duke over Leedle, 159, Detroit, after eight rounds.

Comeback hopes of Tony Lomonaco, 174, Grand Rapids, suffered when a cut eye halted him in the second round of his bout with Al Hogan, 172, Toronto, Ontario. Howard Calloway, 155, Muskegon, bested Ernest Percey, 152, Toronto, and Bobby DiGivianno, 135, Grand Rapids, decisioned Gordon Meadows, 134, Pontiac, in four's.

Avoiding any fatal slips as in his previous encounter with Chuck Coleman, Detroit middleweight, Chicagoan Eddie Simms punched out an eight round verdict in their rematch at Kalamazoo. Both boys were on the canvas once during the hard punching duel, but Simms had a clean cut edge. In their earlier clash, Eddie had almost stopped Coleman when he ran into a wild desperation swing.

The bell saved Howard Calloway, Muskegon middleweight, from being stopped for a second time by Hammering Henry Hank, of Detroit, in a four, as the latter socked his way to another exciting win. John Barnes, Detroit lightweight, TKO'd Ken Hohner, of London, Ontario, in the fifth. Harry "Chico" Clay, of Battle Creek, battered Detroit lightweight Frank O'Neal, and Johnny White, Detroit middleweight, bested Curley Moulton, of London, in a pair of four's.

The Ken Hammer-Stanley Mylinski clash at the MCA marked the last show of the 1953 season here. At the same time it ended the old 10 points "divided" scoring system, and hereafter officials will use the 10 "must".

Judge Andy "Kid" Brown scored the clash under both systems and here is how the cards were tallied. Using the old "divided" method, Brown favored Hammer 41-39, while using the "must" he favored Mylinski 75-74.

The new "must" should be a big improvement over the passing "divided". It will enable the officials to give a fighter winning rounds by wide margins the benefit of a 10-6, 7, or 8 total. At the same time it will rule out even rounds, as the officials will be able to score in favor of one or the other 10-9. Even rounds are only an easy way out for most officials.

Back to the bout, Hammer, 188¾, Detroit, got off the canvas from a first round knockdown to edge out a close decision from Mylinski, 177¼, Chicago, in an eight, much to the disapproval of the spectators. Kenny put on a late rally in the closing rounds to edge out his Windy City opponent. Under the new system it is doubtful if Hammer would have won because Mylinski won his rounds by wider margins and would have compiled more points as judge Brown indicated above.

Hammering Henry Hank, 156, Detroit, despite his limited experience, punched out an excellent win over veteran Tommy Darrough, 155¾, Flint, in a four. Hank, scoring his sixth win in seven starts, won going away as he rocked the clever Darrough numerous times and never gave Tommy a chance to get started with his busy two fisted attack.

Clarence Riley, 160¾, Detroit, scored a mild prelim upset in outboxing Bob Ross, 166, Detroit, in another four.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES. . . . Manager Eugene "Buzzy" Maday and his fighter Lester Felton will try to get New York fights. Felton should be right back at the top if he set his mind to it. . . . You can tab the names of Henry Hank and Henry Bronko, two young Detroiters, as a pair of comers. Hank has tremendous punching power in either hand, boxes well and takes a good punch. Bronko is a rough-house type, a draw back to the old days, who also is a willing mixer with a good sock. Watch these two youngsters.

A real personality to boxing is Bill Matney, secretary of the Boxing Commission and Sports Editor of the Michigan Chronicle. . . . Julius Piazza's Motor City BC missed it's first Detroit date in two years, giving away to Santa on Christmas Eve. . . . Davey Moore is Ted Ordanik's sensational prospect. He's an excellent prospect—watch him.

In closing I wish to extend my thanks to all the wonderful people who took the time to send their season's greetings my way. This scribe can be reached at 8799 Homer Avenue, Detroit 9, Mich.

CONNECTICUT BOXING NEWS

By Sal Giacobbe

DUE to the holidays, no fights were held in Connecticut during the past month. Waterbury, with Tony Paoli promoting, will resume bi-monthly shows featuring local talent, with either Pat Mallane or Eddie Swift heading most of the cards. Mallane's still gunning for a shot at New Haven's Eddie Compo, while Eddie Swift, after 5 straight KO wins, lost his first fight via a KO in a recent bout with Bob Harris in Holyoke. Swift had Harris on the deck in the first round and in real trouble, but got careless when Harris regained his feet and ran into a desperate right hand shot that ended the fight right there and then. Swift is anxiously awaiting a return bout which Paoli has promised him in the very near future.

Sam Gulino, who has promoted boxing in Thompsonville, Hartford and New Britain, will resume boxing in New Britain's Stanley Arena soon. He hopes to run on a weekly basis if he can keep his head above water. Incidentally, Gulino seems to have hit the Jack-pot with weekly wrestling in New Britain, having grossed well over $1,000,000 in his first 3 shows. Gulino is one guy who gives it the old College try and we wish him all the LUCK in the world.

Dinny McMahon, Meriden's great boxing figure, Manager of former World's Featherweight Champion, Kid Kaplan and handler of many top-notch boxers in his day, and for the past 19 years, chief Inspector for the Connecticut State Athletic Commission, who was recently honored by the Conn. Boxing Guild, received a Gold Key from the Connecticut Sports Writers' Alliance as a symbol of Sporting achievement over the years. The award was made at the annual Banquet of the writers on January 18. GOOD LUCK, DINNY, AND KEEP PUNCHING.

UNDER SOUTHERN SKIES
By Tom Ephrem

WILLIE PEP, 129, remains today about as invincible as in his hey-day. Boxing fans wherever Willie shows have seen that but most of Pep's opponents don't get much of a view. It's simple when Willie seldom affords them time to look things over. Against Tony Longo, 130, at Miami Beach on December 15, the former featherweight champion razzle-dazzled Longo for an easy 10 round decision with that skillful way of his. Pep added cheer to Manager Lou Viscusi and Trainer Bill Gore's work with footwork that prevented Tony from landing more than two good punches in the entire 10 frames.

On the Pep-Longo undercard: Larry Boardman, 132¾, Marlboro, Conn., a boy to keep tabs on, won his best Florida bout with a four round TKO over Rocky Randell, 135, of Tampa, and another promising boy, Petie Ridgway, 136, Miami, was held to an eight round draw by Georgie LaMelza, 132¾, Philadelphia. Harold Neely, 194, Montgomery, beat Kenny Yates, 188, Miami, in six. Yama Bahama, 152¼, Bahama, grabbed a four rounder from Humphrey Humphries, 148, Miami. Attendance was 2,879 and the gate, $6,776. Chris Dundee promoted.

Charlie (Doc) Williams, former Mahwah, N. J. heavyweight and a present resident of Jacksonville gave the new home town fight folks a small but very effective sample of head and body punching in registering a third round technical knockout over Lou Brown in Florida's Gateway City. The Jacksonville heavyweight felled Brown in the first round with a right to the head, a left to the body in the second and Referee Carl Sivers halted the contest after Williams dropped Brown, of New York, a third time, with a left hook to the noggin, round three. Brown tried to carry the fight to the more experienced Doc but he played in Charlie's hands by this method. The winner scaled 193, and the loser, 182.

The best fight on Promoter Irving Kaye's card saw Willie Delk, 133, Waycross, Ga., upset Jackie Luke, 128, Jacksonville, after six scrappy rounds. Luke finished strong and should have been the winner. Little David (Davey Seabrooke), 134, Jacksonville, TKO'ed King Roberts, 134, Gainesville, in the third round. Johnny Johnson, 124, Jacksonville, was held to a four round draw by Chuck Waldon, 128, Indianapolis. In semi-pro bouts with no decisions rendered, Tony Shields, 165, Baltimore met Terry Courney, 165, Detroit Lakes, Minn., and Marcus "Chop Chop" Boatus, 118, Honolulu, faced Benny Brown, 112, Bridgeport, Conn. Hymie Levine was the matchmaker.

It didn't take long for Mickey Laurent to catch on the ways of Baby Williams in Promoter Chris Dundee's headliner at Miami Beach. The Frenchman from Paris shot straight, accurate punches on the forward-moving, wild-swinging Cuban from Havana and planted timely blows on the Baby's mid-section to gain the unanimous decision after 10 rounds of good fighting. The winner weighed 160, a quarter pound more than the loser.

Eddie Springer, 160¾, Coral Gables, took the eight semi from Jose Fuentes, 158½, Havana. Georgie LaMelza, 134¾, Philadelphia, bested Billy Morgan, 135, Miami, in four. Tom Tatum, 173, Miami, defeated Jimmy Edwards, 190, Miami, in four. Johnny Guberia, 140½, McAllen, Texas, kayoed Jackie Earle, 146, Washington, D. C., in two. Yama Bahama, 153, Bimini, outpointed Eddie Armstrong, 147, Fort Pierce, in four. Attendance was 1840.

Please send in all boxing notes, news and results to this here corner before the second of each month for publication. Address: Tom Ephrem, 403 West Ninth Street, or WJHP-TV Station, Phillips Highway, Jacksonville.

A turnout of 1900 fans greeted the opening of West Palm Beach's 1953-54 fight season on December 4th. Willie Pep, 129, headlined with Miami's Davey Allen, 134, in the top tenner and the ex-champ, of Hartford and Miami Beach, scored an easy decision. Willie had easy pickings all the way. Some of the customers didn't stay for the 10 rounds but started leaving in the third.

Eddie Springer, 156, Coral Gables, stopped the often-stopped Tommy Hatcher, 150, Pensacola, Jacksonville, New Orleans, Daytona Beach and several other stops, in the second after having dropped him three times all-total. Jackie Davis, 134, Norfolk, stopped Ray Burgess, 132, local, in one. Petie Ridgway, Miami, and best prelim boxer in Florida, dropped Frankie Leach, 134, Daytona Beach, in the fourth and won another decision over the same name in six rounds. Georgie LaMelza, 134, Philadelphia, grabbed a sixer from Johnny Guberia, 136, San Antonio. Al Caroly, matchmaker.

In another one-sided main event at West Palm Beach on December 11, Del Flanagan, 147, St. Paul, Minnesota, proved an easy victor over Chief Crazy Horse, 150, Rosebud Reservation. Del took the 10 rounder, boxing and moving like he wanted and won all rounds on Referee Petey Sarron's tab.

Tony Necro and Emerson Butcher came up with the best bout, a draw resulting after six rounds. Necro, 148, Warren, Ohio and Butcher, 147, Rock Island, Ill. Roy Sutherland, 157, Halifax, N. S., won in six from Jose Fuentes, 156, Havana mute. This bout was tainted with fouls, many intended. Georgie LaMelza, 133, Philadelphia, earned the duke in six over Frankie Leach, 134, Daytona Beach. Richie Kraft, 135, Canton, Ohio, TKO'ed Jackie Earle, 137, Washington, D. C. in three. Al Caroly, matchmaker. Attendance was 900.

A disappointment in his last several fights, Bobby Dyges grounded all controversy with a convincing seventh round technical knockout over Tino Longoria at Miami Beach on December 8th. Tino took a trouncing. Biffed about and his left eye cut, the Houston boy was relieved from further suffering by Referee Petey Sarron as he lay limp and halfway out the ropes. Dykes tipped 159, a pound less than the unfortunate Texan.

In the semi-final, an eighter, Bo Willis, 190, Miami, scored two knockdowns and grabbed the decision over Claude Rolfe, 192½, Miami. Larry Boardman, a 133½ pound youngster from Marlboro, Conn., and who has shown excellently in his bouts in and around down here, annexed a sixer from Johnny Guberia, 137, of McAllen, Texas. Kenny Yates, 187½, Concord, N. C., kayoed Bob Sullivan, 184½, Detroit, in one. Gene Lewis, 160, Miami, kayoed Bolvine Deveaux, 160, Nassau, in the second. This card drew 3,000 fans and $7,000 for Promoter Chris Dundee.

Pity that Jack Laken's inaugural fight card at Miami's Medley Stadium panned out so poor. Our report from Laken hasn't arrived at this moment but Matchmaker Hymie Levine of Jacksonville said the gate hit the forty dollar mark and only two of the scheduled bouts went on. In one, Andy Mayfield edged Jimmy Morris in a middleweight tenner. The other was a prelim four and ended in an early kayo. Full report will be covered in our next Ring writing. The card was staged on December 28th.

Glen Flanagan, like his brother Del, turned in a 10 round main event win at West Palm Beach on December 18 and his victim was Baby Joe Diaz, 139, of Tampa, Glen, 135, of St. Paul Minnesota, grabbed every round on Referee Billy Regan's score card. The week before, Del had the same score against Chief Crazy Horse.

Eddie Springer, 160, Duluth, Minn., and Coral Gables, dropped a lively eight round semi to George Holzman, 163, Bayonne, N. J. Guest ref Jimmy Smith, of Boston, figured the Jersey boy for the first five rounds. Springer's good finish wasn't enough. Emerson Butcher, 147, Rock Island, Ill., TKOed Jose Fuentes, 153, Havana, when Fuentes, claiming Butcher butted him, refused to come out for the sixth. Tony Necro, 152, Warren, Ohio, TKOed Roy Sutherland, 157, Halifax, N. S., in the fourth. A gathering of 800 attended. Al Caroly, matchmaker.

Here's another for Nat Fleischer's Ring Record Book. At Columbus, Ga., where Chick Liddell promotes fights at Fort Benning and Fred Ward dittoes in Columbus, they drew a total of 138 fans on successive nights. Ward had 99 folks for a Monday card and Liddel saw 39 at his the following eve. Add Jack Laken's show at Miami where he drew forty dollars' worth of customers.

The Ring Magazine gave us the opportunity to hear from one of our Army pals in the 60th Station Hospital, George Butler, of Arlington, Washington. Other 60th buddies dropping us word were, Tony Coiro, Bill Lantry and Sal Laurie. Thanks heaps, Pals, and let's keep up that correspondence.

At the Miami Beach Auditorium on December 22, Chico Vejar had trouble with Pierre Hernandez for four rounds but a right hand to the Frenchman's face in the fifth paved the road for much easier things. Chico went on from there to win the 10 round decision unanimously. The winner, stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., weighed 154¾ and Hernandez, managed by Jean Bretonnel, tipped 150. Hernandez used a nice left hook in the first half and the last round. He tasted Vejar's right in the fifth and hit the deck for the mandatory eight-count. He came up sporting a cut left eye that required later four stitches.

Harry Braelow, Miami Beach, won a tenner from Bobby Lopez, Lynn, Mass., in a middleweight go. Jackie Janson, Bakersville, Ohio, TKOed Kenny Yates, of Concord, N. C., in six. Both light-heavies. Billy Pappas, Reading, Pa., beat Harry Neely, Birmingham, Ala., heavyweight in a six, and Jimmy Edwards drew in four with Tom Tatum, local heavies. Chris Dundee promoted. The attendance, 2,685 and the gate, $6,305.

Sure would be hard to beat this fight that Billy Kilgore and Mickey Laurent gave the folks down at Miami Beach, on December 29. Kilgore won the duke after 10 hot rounds but he had to do it from the fifth round on and that he did, even dropping the game Frenchman in the ninth for a big assist. Weighing 166, while Laurent scaled 158½, Kilgore probably put up the best fight in his career. Laurent took Billy's bangings particularly in the seventh and tenth as well as in the ninth. Mickey, from Paris, was effective at first with his body punching. Joe Brown, 136, New Orleans, TKOed Cliff Dyes, 148, Miami, in nine. George Holzman, 165, Bayonne, beat Gary Simon, 159, Nova Scotia, in six. Larry Boardman, 132½, Marlboro, Conn., TKOed Bobby Yantis, 129½, Daytona Beach, in three. Yama Bahama, 155, Nassau, kayoed Phil Brick, 151, Warm Springs, Ga., in one. Chris Dundee promoted. Attendance, 2,416 and gate, $5,060.

Tommy Hatcher, 150, got stopped again. Using the name Jimmy Hatcher against Ralph Pearson, 150, on Promoter Fred Ward's show at Macon, Ga., on December 18, Hatcher lost out in the second round when Referee Speedy Spears called it a night for the luckless loser who has the habit of fading from the picture that way.

Jimmy Craven, 173, Sylacauga, Ala., and Jackie Turner (also Billy Turner) of Fort Benning, weighing 174, met in a sixer with Turner taking the nod. Jackie Bennett, of Fort Benning, and Bobby Reddy, each at 195, and Reddy from Grantville, S. C., met in a heavyweight prelim and Bennett won a TKO in four. Rocky Randall, 135, now of Tampa, beat James Elliott, 148, Macon, in a six.

Death took a familiar boxing figure down Miami way just before Christmas. Arthur A. Einstein, former Navy boxing champ, ex-promoter and box office man for local promoters died in a Miami hospital. Arthur came to the Magic City from New York 25 years ago. Surviving are his Mother, Mrs. Ray Einstein; a daughter, Mrs. Lillian Lucke and a granddaughter.

WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

Joe Trabon

Former top notch lightweight who fought the best in his class, including Sammy Mandell, Louis (Kid) Kaplan, Baby Joe Gans, Ruby Goldstein, Bruce Flowers, Eddie Kid Wagner, Jackie Kid Berg, and George Chabot.

Joey fought from 1923 to 1930 as a crowd pleasing performer of the club fighter variety. Since his retirement from the ring he has been a member of Kansas City, Missouri, Police Dept. Joe is a big favorite with the kids and does fine work with the P.A.L.

NEW JERSEY BOXING NEWS
By Lewis Eskin

RAMBLING AROUND; With the Christmas and New Year holidays falling on fight night, there was little action in Jersey during the past month. Only two shows were held, both at Laurel Garden.

With the start of the Golden Gloves this month, the gyms around Jersey are filling up with youngsters who have high hopes that they will be among the 16 who will end up winning championships. As always, Jack Reno will have a topnotch team at the Newark P.A.L. Other top combinations will be the service teams from Ft. Dix, and Camp Kilmer; the Steve Chorbak Englishtown Sporting Club and Ralph Dell's Cestus A. C. of Newark.

The two round kayo wins posted by Bayonne heavyweight Charley Norkus were the big noise of the month in out of state rings. Charley flattened Ray Wilding and Hal Boylston. Doc Williams stopped Lou Brown, Vince Martinez kayoed Jimmy Bethea. Al Mobley held Franz Suzinia to a draw. Roy Alston was stopped by Tony Anthony. Willie Johnson kayoed Clarence Williams. Jimmy Walls won his seventh straight by stopping Ernie Sheppard. Gene Jones looked impressive in beating Bert Whitehurst, and Bobby Moore got the raw end of a decision against Billy McNeece.

RESULTS FOR THE MONTH—Laurel Garden, Newark—Danny Rubino, 158, Hoboken, proved his win over Joe Serafini a few months ago was no fluke when he stopped the game 155 pounder from Newark in 27 seconds of the fourth round. Danny floored Joe for counts in the first and twice in the third.

Johnny Jenkins, 178, New York halted Walter Cunningham, 180, Newark in the fifth, Al Certisimo, 140, Hoboken kayoed Johnny Dale, 137, Trenton in the first. Dale was decked trice, Johnny Long, 137, Elizabeth, stopped Harry (Junior) Boutillette, 138, Newark in three and Monk Reynolds, 165, Alexandria, Va. kayoed Al Anderson, 165, Jamaica, L. I. in 2.

Lanky Hurley, 161, Newark made good use of his height and reach as he won in eight rounds over tough Phil Rizzo, 158, Brooklyn in a slow bout. Rizzo forced the action but Sanders was much too cute for him and outboxed him all the way.

Showing better in each fight, Tim Jones, 158, Plainfield turned in his best win to date as he outfought Gene Washington, 157, Elizabeth in a good six rounder. Stan Micheaux, 151, Rahway outscored Andy Figueroa, 151, New York, 4. Johnny Cox, 154½, New York fought to a draw with Fred Collier, 154, Long Island City, and Johnny Lemmons, 132, New York edged out Otis Holmes, 129, Newark in a fast four rounder.

PROSPECT OF THE MONTH—Young Stanley Micheaux, Rahway middleweight. Stan showed lots of heart in his pro debut though he was beaten by the much heavier Buster Oliver. In his last two starts he defeated Andy Figueroa, a protege of Kid Gavilan, who was unbeaten before facing Micheaux.

This writer's address is 137 Kensington Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

COVERING NEW ENGLAND
by Charlie Longo

WATERVILLE, MAINE. Tommy Tibbs 130, Boston, one of New England's busiest fighters, outpointed Filberto Osario, 132, New York in eight rounds. Tibbs, who hails out of Cleveland, Ohio, and who has been making Boston his home town has a large following that trails Tibbs everywhere he fights.

In the semi final veteran Al Smith 127, Boston, outpointed Bob Gory, 128, N. Y. in a six round bout. Smith has just come home out of the U. S. Army after two years with Uncle Sam.

Roger Dennis 149, Waterville, and Joey Erskine, 150, New York drew in six rounds. Lou Thrasher, 190, Boston, TKO'd Jackie Dubois, 185, Waterville, in 4 rounds. Drew Cook, 160, Belfast, outpointed Tommy Lawless, 160 Waterville, (4).

Fall River, Johnny Saxton, of Brooklyn, made short work of Herman McCray, of Philadelphia, in the main bout at the Fall River Casino, but only after a stern word from the referee to fight hard. Saxton, the third ranking welterweight, knocked out his opponent at 1.10 of the third round after flooring him with a terrific right to the jaw just before the bell ending the second.

Two of the preliminary boys were taken to the hospital after being kayoed. Thomas N. Roche, Commission Physician, said that the boys had slight concussions. Both fighters were taken from the ring on stretchers and revived in their dressing room. The two stretcher cases were Roger Ringuette, 151, Fall River, who was knocked out at 2.28 of the third round by Clarence Williams, 151, of Fall River and Tony Travers, 128, of New Bedford, felled by Eddie Friedman, 126, of Philadelphia, at 2.20 of the third round.

In another six rounder, Benny Meeks, 140, New York, stopped Gene La Blanc, 145, of Fall River, at 1.20 of the fifth round.

In the opening four rounder, Billy Burke, 183, Providence, scored his third straight one round knockout over Curley Belanger, 177, of Fall River.

Worcester—December 17—Billy Andy of Providence, lost the unanimous ten round decision to Willie Gray 150, Gray downed Andy for a compulsory eight count in the second round and Andy 153½, decked the Boston fighter, as the bell ended the fourth. Gray who was dragged to his corner came out for the fifth and gave a good account of himself, tried in all his efforts to put a kayo punch over, but Gray was just a little too smart and the better puncher.

In the semi final, Gus Monteverde 143, Fitchburg, and Jimmy Mattos, of Lawrence, battled to a six round draw.

Frankie Maly, 154½, Marlboro, kayoed Don Dano, 154½, Gardner, (1) Bob Carrington, 144, Boston, outpointed Vince Brown, 148, Providence, (6).

Boston—December 26th.—Wilbur Wilson, Boston's TV sensation, stopped the Italian champion Livio Minelli, fifth ranking welterweight in the world, in the tenth round of a nationally televised fight, at Mechanics Building before a sellout crowd. A cut eye caused the commission doctor to halt the fight. Wilson, who weighed 149 to Minelli's 154, forced the fight from the first to the last round. A return in the Boston Gardens should sell out.

In the preliminaries: Buddy Cochrane, 148¼, Somerville, kayoed Johnny Pep-Up Peters, 147, Worcester, in the third round of a scheduled four. Cochrane a converted southpaw looked very good winning his eight in a row. Cochrane, who is of Irish descent, has a large following and is going places.

Eddie Andrews, 151½, of Lowell, who has been undefeated in his ten fights, looked very good in winning handily over Tobey Silvia, 159½, Fall River, in six rounds.

Johnny O'Brien, youthful middleweight from Cambridge, punched out a unanimous decision over Gordon Iffill, Serville, in a four.

Danny Joseph's 139½, Providence, won over Rocky Sullivan, 136, Dorchester, in the fourth due to a cut eye. It was a tough break for Sullivan who had a slight edge of the fight.

Windmill Willie Gray, 148, lost a tough one to Tom Smith, 156½, Providence in six rounds. Fighting only a short time, Gray has been doing pretty well for a beginner.

Tony DeMarco was an easy winner over the veteran Red Top Davis. He took almost every round from the ring wise Davis. Referee Jimmy McCarron stalked to Davis after the sixth round and said all you're doing is holding. You're not throwing any punches. It wasn't that Davis didn't want to throw punches, but Little Sampson never gave him a chance to get set. As soon as the referee said break, Tony was on top of Red Top.

In the semi-final, Roger Wiley, of Beverly Farms, 172, stopped Joe Grimara, 166¼, decision to Gramara a few weeks before, gave Grimara a pasting. Referee Johnny Martin stopped the affair.

Dom Petrone, 144, Malden, defeated Jim Peters, 142, Worcester, (4)

Eddie Andrews, 152½, Lowell, stopped Bill Farmer, 155¼, Dedham, in one round.

Johnny O'Brien, 160¼, Somerville, outpointed Gerry Tessier, 160, Springfield, (4)

Roy Andrews, 140, Lowell, and Ben Miloud, French Morocco, 136½, Drew, (8)

Fall River—December 10—Harold Gomes, Providence, kayoed Stony Gaudette, a native of the Bahamas, and now fighting out of Hartford, in the first round of a ten round bout at the Fall River Casino. Gomes, who weighed in at 124½, to his opponent's 128¼, had Gaudette down for nine with a right to the jaw and a left hook to the body right after the start. He finished it with a terrific flurry of blows.

In the six round semi-final, Bob Bolton, 159, of Providence, scored a split decision over Louis Campnelli, 163, also of Providence. These fellow townsmen staged a fine bout and the 854 fans gave them a rousing reception.

Danny Josephs, Jr. 139½, Providence, took a split decision over Bobby English, 138½, of Fall River, (6).

Pat Cody, 143, Providence, defeated Norman Shaw, 146½, Fall River, (4).

Billy Burke, 183½, Providence, stopped Morris Belanger, 188½, Fall River, (2).

Fall River—December 17—Willie Johnson, Newark, New Jersey, kayoed Clarence Williams, of Fall River, in the top eight rounder in the first round at the Fall River Casino.

Al Duarted, 134, New Bedford, outpointed Bobby English, 138, Fall River, (8).

Don Southern, 143½, Newport, outpointed Billy Mays, 143, Boston, (8).

Ed Campbell, Pawtucket, 130, outpointed Charlie Veloza, 127½, Fall River, (4).

Toby Silva, 155, Fall River, outpointed Al Frias, 150½, Fall River, (4).

Joe Rindone, New England veteran is fighting as good as ever. He hopes for a shot at the title. He has a New England following.

Jerry Gardner, well known New England trainer died recently. Another New Englander, Doc Almy, who for many years was the outstanding boxing reporter in Massachusetts, passed away just before Christmas after a long illness.

My address is 249 Friend St., Boston, Mass. Send your copy to me.

BOXING BITS FROM VIRGINIA
By Jack Levinson

VIRGINIA'S bantamweight champion, Don Webber or Roanoke, scored a sensational upset over the Canadian 118 pound champion, Fernando Gagnon in their bout in Quebec.

Portsmouth's Al Robbins, now boxing professionally out of New York City has an impressive record of 21 wins in 27 bouts. The former Virginia state welterweight amateur champion, created much favorable comment while acting as sparring partner for Chico Vejar in preparation for his bout with Vince Martinez.

Virginia's only professional club, "Sport's Enterprises Inc." of Roanoke, presented its final card of the 1953 season, before a slim attendance of 764 paid customers, at the American Legion Auditorium.

Jimmy Campbell, 158, of Akron, Ohio, broke the 5 bout winning streak of Eddie Marshall, 162, of Capital Heights, Md. in the feature bout.

In the co-feature between Lonnie (Bulldog) Rutherford, 169, of Roanoke and Don Oliver, 166, of Washington, D. C., the fans were treated to a punching affair. The official draw decision of the judges, was welcomed by the cheering spectators.

After dropping Joe Dunn, 124, of Baltimore 3 times in the first round, Puggy King, 119, of Capital Heights, Md. was awarded a TKO win . . . Roy Wirt, 152, of Roanoke lost a close decision to Pete Warren, 162, of Washington, D. C. in 6.

Norman Fletcher, 136, of Newport in his 4th professional bout, scored an impressive upset by winning on a K.O. over Charles Lucado, 139, of Roanoke, in 33 seconds of the 3rd round . . . Stanley Davis, 124, of Lynchburg won the unanimous decision over Joey Grey, 130, of Baltimore, Md.

In an All-Service smoker, held at The Naval Air Station gymnasium in Norfolk, the results were:

Bob Epperson, 179, NAS scored a first round K. O. over Al Spears, 180, NAS . . . Don McCuthens, 156, NAS decisioned Phil Rodgers, 157, DesLant . . . Jimmy Thompson, NAS won a TKO over Mike Pedicone of the USS Waldrich . . . Earl White, 141, NAS won a 3rd rd TKO over Joe Jayne, 142, (Phiblant), Cliff Eskridge (Phiblant) decisioned Frank Rollins, USS Parle . . . Bill Wedemeyer (Phiblant) decisioned Gerald Casey (Phiblant) . . . Frank Moen, (Oceana) won TKO over Bob Herring (NAS) . . . Archie Harton (Yorktown) won TKO over Robin Reese (USS Roosevelt) . . . Bill Farmer (NAS) decisioned Scotty McCullough.

Joey DePhillips, 152, ended his Naval boxing career by winning a TKO over Lowell Dickerson, 153, of the VAC, in the 2nd round. This feature bout held at the Virginia Beach Auditorium, with Algy Cohen handling the matchmaking role.

Earl Winfield, VAC, 137, won over U. T. Brown, 138, of Va Beach . . . Don Lee, Amphib Base, 180, stopped Norman Charles, 182, NCAC in 2 . . . Howard Irwin, 175, won over James Briscoe, 175, NCAC . . . John Caruso, 142, Amphib base, won TKO over Allen Moore, 140, NCAC . . . Ben Brady, 126, NAAS won over Ted Woods, 132, NAS . . . John Runk, 144, Va Beach won by TKO over Howard Hollowell, 143, VAC . . . Shorty Shartell, 132, Va Beach won over Tommy Wynn, 132, VAC.

Virginia boxing news is welcome. Please have notes at my address before the end of the month. My address is: 7423 W. Kenmore Drive, Norfolk, Va.

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BOXING FROM RIO DE JANEIRO
By Dr. Izargot

Nelson de Andrade, 159, defeated Paulo Sacoman, 160, for the Brazilian middleweight title at Pacaembu. In the semi-final eight rounder, Abelardo Machado outpointed Valdemar Ortib.

Ralph Zumbano, 135, Sao Paulo, decisioned Romeu Barbosa in a ten round bout for the lightweight title. The judges gave it to Zumbano 7 rounds to 3.

Jaime Pontes and Cecilie Alem drew in eight rounds. Martis Vaz halted Jose Leonaldo in two. Joao Carrico, 160, beat David Santaba in a six rounder. Aristides de Oliveira and Euclides Ribeiro drew in six.

Jose Tavares, 145, was defeated by Joao Romano das Neves in 4. Claudio Silva Santos, 128, beat Raul Sacovich, 128.

BOXING NEWS FROM HAWAII
By Ted Yamachika

RENO ABELLIRA, 154, established himself as the number one local attraction when he toppled crafty Woody Winslow, 151, of Merced, California in 2:09 of the eighth round of a fight card held at the Civic Auditorium on December 8, 1953. The end came suddenly and unexpectedly and surprised the fans who had already settled down to seeing the fight go the full route. Honors were about even up to this point. Abellira was landing the harder blows but Winslow was landing more frequently.

There was little to choose between the two fighters in the first two rounds but in the third Winslow took the play away from his rugged opponent with a sharp shooting left hook which he started landing with regularity. He continued to pile up his lead in the fourth but lost the fifth when he became careless and took some hard thumpings to the head. Winslow again shaded Abellira in the sixth.

The punch which finished Winslow in the eighth was a left hook to the jaw, probably the hardest thrown during the fight. Stunned momentarily, he started to back away but left himself unguarded. Abellira followed up immediately with a right and two more lefts. Winslow sank to the floor and was counted out.

The fight was promoted by Ralph Yempuku. It was witnessed by a crowd of 1,602 and the gross was $2,165.70.

Other results: Dan Santiago, 135½, decisioned Harry Frodente, 135, scoring two knockdowns in a four round fight. Dickie Wong, 145¼, beat Dalfus Brown, 148¾, 4 rds. Leroy Potter, 149½, won over Vincent Medeiros, 149, 4 rds. John Amaral, 127½, outclassed Kid Matthews, 127½, in the four round opener.

World heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano, on his way back to the States after a tour of the Orient, stopped long enough in Honolulu to appear in an exhibition at the Honolulu Stadium's outdoor arena on Saturday, December 19, 1953. Bad weather held the crowd down to a handful and the gate receipts for the exhibition plus a full boxing card was only $1,655.48. The promoter was Jack King.

Marciano boxed two rounds apiece with Toxie Hall and Bob Golden, his regular sparring mates.

In the ten round main event, a new Territorial lightweight champion was crowned when Steve Takano slashed his way to a decision over durable Abel Donnell in an interesting bout. There was very little fighting in the earlier rounds but once they started belting each other they fought like wildcats.

Outpunching the challenger in almost every exchange Donnell held the upper hand right up to the sixth but the tide of battle completely changed from the seventh round on. Takano started connecting with his overhand rights, against which Donnell appeared defenseless, and except for momentary lapses, he outfought Donnell in the eighth, ninth and tenth rounds.

The decision was split. Referee Walter Cho called it even, giving each fighter 12 points apiece but Judges Frankie Gomes and Louis Freitas had Takano winning 11 to 10 and 14 to 11.

Takano weighed 131½ and Donnell, 131.

Other results: Placido Torres, 133, beat Larry Cantiberos, 133, in the six round semi-final. Stanley Harrington, 139, decisioned Dan Santiago, 138, 4 rds. Leroy Potter, 148, outpointed Vincent Mederios, 151, 4 rds. Al Palpallatoc, 118, won over Dan Borero, 121½, 4 rds.

Well, here's a belated "Mele Kalikimaka—Hauoli Makahiki Hou" from Hawaii.

RIGHT FROM MEXICO CITY
By Selsso Tiborro

RATON MACIAS, because of his meteoric career, was the fighter of the year here, and, Baby Ortiz, last year's boxer, rated second. Macias became national bantamweight king in his fifth professional match.

The local promoter did not stop activities in December as has always been the custom during the holidays, although the number of shows was considerably reduced. Only six took place and the results were as given below:

Tomas Castillo, 128, lost to Moi Torres, 128, in two rounds by disqualification, but the local Boxing Commission revoked the verdict in Castillo's favor a few days later. Lino Botello, 119, decisioned Luis Villa, 118, in ten.

Carlos Martinez, 155, stopped Armando Cotero, 158, in four. Julio Escobedo, 125, drew with Joaquin Carrillo, 125, in ten.

Alberto "Ventarron" Reyes, 119, Chilean bantamweight champion, decisioned Luis Castillo, 117, in ten, in a fight which was voted the best of the year. Enrique Esqueda, 134, stopped Papelero Sanchez, 132, in eight.

Lalo Gallardo, 134, decisioned Enrique Gomez, 136, in ten. Babe Lopez, 114, decisioned Angel Iglesias, 119, in ten.

Genaro Serafin, 119, decisioned Manuel Armenteros, 119, in ten. Memo Sanchez, 112, decisioned Memo Diez, 117, in ten.

Jorge Castro, 154, decisioned Memo Garmendia, 151, in ten. Carlos Martinez, 155, decisioned Jesse Robles, 154, in ten, although the verdict was not a popular one.

IN TOKYO, JAPAN
By F. N. Miike

NEW ratings issued recently in Japanese professional boxing for the last quarter of the year find no major changes.

On Nov. 25 before a packed crowd of 10,000 at Tokyo's Memorial Hall, two champions successfully defended their crowns.

In the first of two main events, featherweight title-holder Noboru Tanaka easily outpointed Akiyoshi Akanuma in a 10-round return match.

Tanaka, a southpaw, had the game challenger from whom he won the belt, on the verge of a knockout in the last two rounds.

Tanaka weighed 125 pounds and Akanuma 123½ pounds.

On the same night in another 10-round affair, lightweight champion Masaji Akiyama after a slow start took a one-sided decision over Flash Elorde of the Philippines.

Elorde, Orient bantamweight champion, weighed only 124 pounds to Akiyama's 134 pounds.

One of the highlights of Rocky Marciano's busy three-day schedule in Japan, part of his Far East tour, was the meeting with world flyweight champion Yoshi Shirai, a meeting that brought together the title-holders in the heaviest and lightest divisions.

Marciano boxed two fast rounds each against Foxie Hall and Bob Golden. Japanese fight fans, used to seeing smaller men box, witnessed with awe the towering heavyweights perform.

MARYLAND'S MERRY MAULERS
By Joe Poodles, Sr.

THE fistic bombarding has been quiet here the past month with nary a show on tap, however, promoter Benny Trotta expects to get going this month.

Two of Baltimore's brighter prospects went down to defeat at the Cambria club in Philly. Lou Benson was stopped in the seventh round by Ted Calaman in a rousing good scrap. Calaman hit the deck twice while Benson hit the resin three times. At the time the referee stopped it Benson looked O.K. Earl Clemons lost a seven round decision to Philly's undefeated Jimmy Soo in a very good scrap. The decision was unanimous, although it was extremely close.

SPOKANE NEWS
By Jack Powers

ONLY local activity to date was another real good action-packed show at the Kennewick, Chinese Gardens Arena, on Dec. 21. It played to a complete sell out of the small arena. Jimmy Grow, Lewiston, Idaho, lightweight, stopped Manuel Nito cold in the second heat of a scheduled eight round feature bout. Grow is a vastly improved fighter and apparently his new management and trainer setup is doing the job. The good looking Idaho youngster is under management and training of Moe Smith at Boise. He has racked up five consecutive KO wins.

In other bouts at Kennewick: Indian Freddie Miller of Bellingham stopped an inexperienced Doug Kemp of Richland in the third round. Kemp had little to offer but ability to take a punch. In an action-packed six rounder, Indian Willie Boyd was ahead of Tony Greb until condition told and Greb scored a gory KO win in the sixth round. They are lightweights.

A secondary feature, though only a four rounder, saw heavyweight Barry Jackson decision Tommy DeMers in a real pier six brawl that would make a good rematch over the six round route. Both these youngsters show a lot of promise. A third round knockdown scored by Jackson turned the tide of a very even fight up to that point. DeMers came back gamely but the decision was unanimous.

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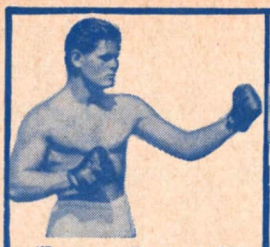

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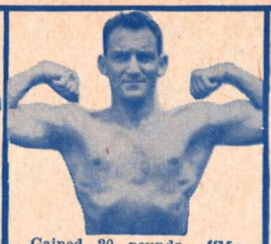

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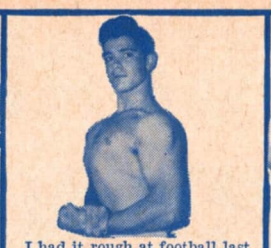
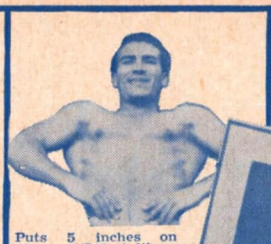
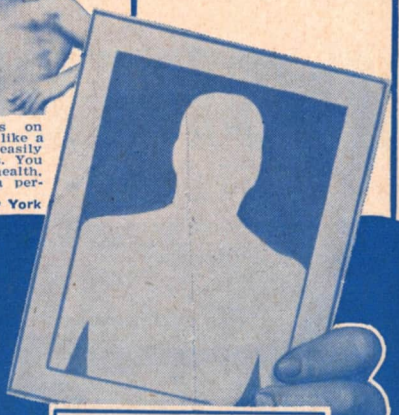


I had it rough at football last year but this season I won't have any trouble. Man, you can sure see the difference in the size of my chest."
—J.C., New Jersey



Puts 5 inches on chest. "I feel like a lion. I can easily lift 185 pounds. You gave me new health, strength, and a perfect build."
—W. D., New York



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Quick Results

Five inches of new muscle—That is what you have done for me—and in almost no time."—C.W., W. Va.

6. Inches of New Muscle

"What a difference! Have put 3½ inches on my chest (normal) and 2½ inches expanded."—F.S., New York

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